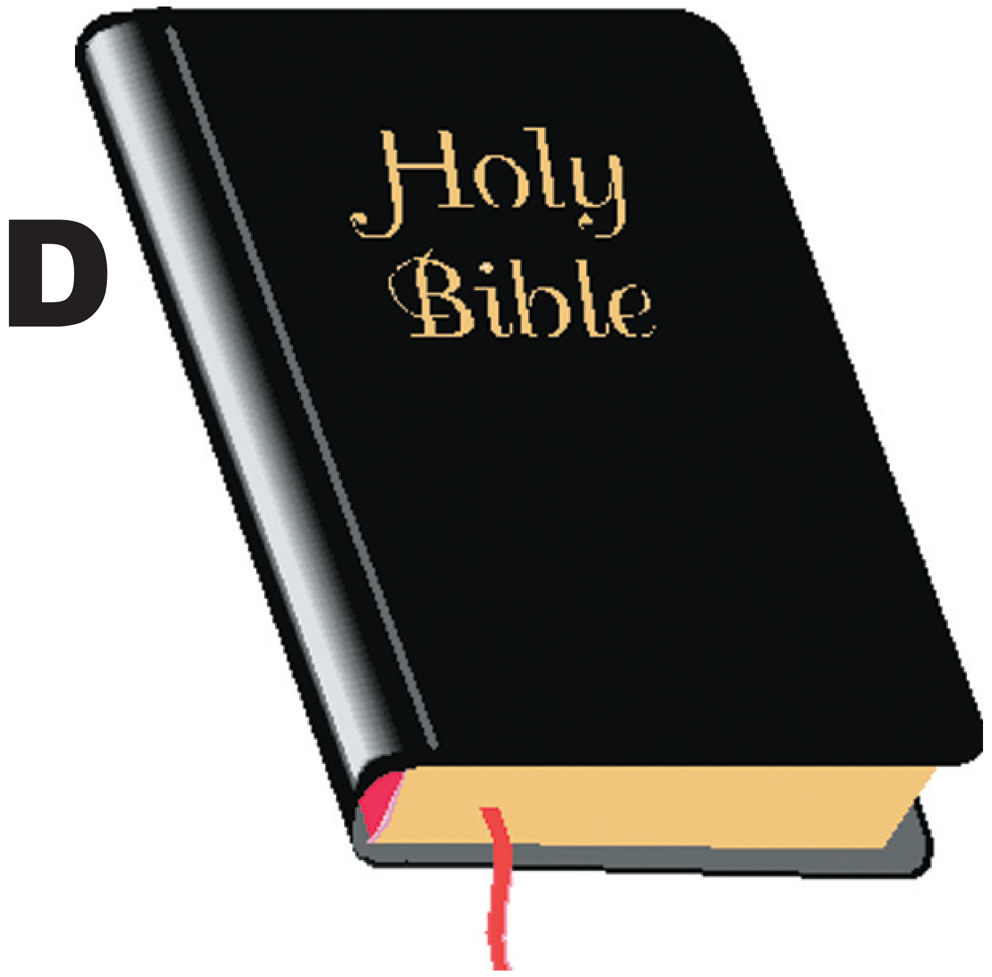
THANK GOD FOR SUNDAYS.



AMEN FOR MONDAYS.

FOOTBALL FOCUS ON PASI SCHWALGER

INTERVIEW WITH SLAM 'EM SAM GRECO

FOOTBALL FEATURE ON KENNY MURPHY

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goal! Weekly

Season 4: Issue 17 Monday 9th June 2008

Supporting all colours and reporting in black and white

EAGLES GO TOE TO TOE BUT,

KNIGHTS TANGO TO THE TOP!

Photo by Steve Starek

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MACKENZIE AT LARGE

FOOTBALL FEATURE ON RYAN BALDACCHINO

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COBURG KNOCKS OFF KNIGHTS!

KNIGHTS SUCCUMB TO FIRST LOSS OF THE SEASON

Photo by Steve Starek

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RYAN'S MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

Gretna History Lands at Paisley Park

Football is full of fascinating tales. One which recently caught world-wide attention involved the plight of Gretna FC.

For those not familiar with the remarkable story, Gretna FC was formed in 1946 and gained election to the Scottish Football League in 2002, before winning three consecutive promotions from 2005-2007 to rise from the Third Division to the Premier League. With the financial support of local millionaire Brooks Mileson, Gretna also became the first side from the third tier to appear in a Scottish FA Cup Final, going down on penalties to Heart of Midlothian in front of over 50,000 fans at Hampden Park after the scores were locked at 1-1.

With Hearts finishing second in the SPL and ensuring itself a place in the Champions League, Gretna's fairytale story continued as it consequently won qualification to the UEFA Cup. By 2007/08 Gretna had taken its place in the SPL and was now competing against the might of Celtic and Rangers. However during this time the club had also accumulated debts of nearly £4m, and when owner Mileson fell ill during last season and withdrew his financial support, there was doubt whether or not the small club, based on the south coast of Scotland, could sustain its viability to compete at such a high level.

This resulted in a 10-point deduction, meaning Gretna had a total of only six points from 28 games when forced into entering administration. The SPL agreed to pay the players' salaries until the end of the 2007/08 season, ensuring the club was able to complete its fixtures in the SPL. But, after the deadline passed for a new owner to be found, the club was forced to resign from the Scottish Football League on June 3 of this year and at last report was expected to be liquidated.

The squad that achieved so much in such a short space of time had no choice but to move on and sign for other clubs. Notable transfers of the final squad list include keeper Greg Fleming (to Oldham Athletic), Artur Krysiak (Birmingham City), Western Australian Rostyn Griffiths (Blackburn Rovers), John Paul Kissock (Everton) and Kyle Naughton (Sheffield United). While most players have since found new clubs, not all have been so lucky, midfielders Brendan McGill and Nicky Deverdics were still without a club as we went to press.

In the aftermath of this fascinating roller-coaster ride, the story has continued beyond the borders of Scotland and now crossed paths with our very own Victorian Foxtel Cup. In the shape of 27-year-old midfielder, Ryan Baldacchino, Altona Magic has brought a piece of what has since become international football folklore, to Melbourne.

With the assistance of Dean Hennessey's extensive network of overseas contacts, Altona Magic has made the most of acquiring the available services of potentially one of the highest profiled signings in the league's recent history. And, if Hennessy's track record in recruiting quality players is anything to go by, then Altona may well have captured a little bit of midfield magic.

Hennessy is the current coach of Southern Stars, and was instrumental in bringing James Robinson and Graham Hockless to Australia. Both players initially made their mark at Richmond Eagles where Hennessy was coach at the time. While Hockless, now at Heidelberg, is an underestimated player of high quality and one of the best passers of the ball in the state, Robinson went on to sign for Melbourne Victory and famously scored the injury time Preliminary Final winning goal that sent the club on its way to the 2006 A-League trophy.

While a slight calf strain is temporarily keeping Baldacchino on the sidelines, the early signs appear to be promising for both club and player as he shares his initial thoughts of his new home.

Ryan Baldacchino: Comes to the Magic after a roller-coaster ride at Gretna

"I've really enjoyed it, but not being entirely fit at the minute I've missed the last few games and it's been a bit frustrating. I've enjoyed training with the lads and coming to a new country and playing in a different environment."

So what swayed his decision to come to Australia? "I had a few options available to me as my season was coming to an end in Scotland. After speaking to a few people over here and over there, and after speaking to Dean Hennessy who explained to me the position of Altona Magic, I felt it was a great opportunity to come and play n the Victorian Premier League and show people what I can do."

"The club obviously know I eventually want to play A-league, as I see that as a good standard and where I can see myself eventually playing, but the Victorian Premier League is a very competitive league and an ideal platform to further my career. Having said that, my main aim at present is to concentrate on playing football for Altona and to do the business for them and win the grand final come season's end."

Although now living in St Kilda, only a matter of four months ago Baldacchino was fronting up against Rangers, but what has been the lasting memories of being involved in a set-up that caught the football world's imagination?

"Winning three titles in a row – I'll never forget that. We created a great winning mentality at Gretna which was brilliant to be involved in and something that will set me up for the remainder of my career. The other point was playing in the UEFA Cup, which for a small place like Gretna to make it to the UEFA Cup was absolutely amazing. On the downside, the club hasn't survived, and I've been keeping in touch with the chairman to see what's happened and what's gone on, but things still haven't been paid out and people are still owed, but it was such a big achievement in such a small amount of time and I was just glad to be a part of it."

What was the feeling however at Greta when the realisation hit home that the club was struggling to survive? "For me personally it was pretty disappointing, especially after all the things we had achieved over the five years. A lot of hard work went in to where we wanted to be. The goal from the start was to go from the Third Division to the SPL in consecutive seasons – it had never been done before – but once we achieved it, it was obviously very disappointing after all the hard work we had done for the club to then get dissolved."

Incidentally, Baldacchino was one of the scorers in the 2-2 draw with Derry City in the first leg of that UEFA Cup tie. The aggregate score was 7-3 to Derry, but it made a lasting impression on Baldacchino: "It's something that you just want to experience over and over again. Playing in front of big crowds, the atmosphere – the UEFA Cup gets quite a fair amount of exposure in Europe and if we had made it through to the next round we would have been playing Paris St Germain. Unfortunately on that occasion it just wasn't meant to be."

Baldacchino has also been called up for international duty on a couple of occasions by the Maltese FA. Although born in Leicester, Baldacchino's grandparents hail from Malta and the possibility still exists for him to represent the small Mediterranean island nation at World Cup level. Paper work would still be required to make things official, but Baldacchino feels he's young enough to consider taking the dual passport option if he wishes to. At present he holds a British passport, but Malta was still making advances on his availability up until the end of the last European season.

In the meantime, however, his football attention has shifted to Paisley Park where Altona Magic assistant coach Franz Weimper has been impressed with the recruit's transition to new surroundings. "He has settled in extremely well and has adapted to the culture of Australian soccer very smoothly. I think what has helped him so far has been his attitude and the character of the players in the dressing room. They have made him feel welcome and treated him extremely well. Ryan is a quality player who has brought a tremendous professional attitude to Altona, on and off the park. I think he has also brought a reassurance that our Premier League clubs are not as primitive or as amateurish in their way of thinking as some people are led to believe. Considering the Premier League clubs have got very limited resources and we're playing a sport that is not the number one sport in the country, it's been good for us to get someone like Ryan and keep him happy."

Asked if he believes the Magic will be able to hold onto someone of the calibre of Baldacchino once A-League clubs get wind of his relocation to Melbourne, Weimper said" "Obviously we feel very confident we'd be able to hang on to him if his objective is just to play in the VPL. However, in the real world players want to play at the highest level they can and Ryan is definitely a player that can play at a higher level. He's a mature player for his position and if an A-league club came in for him he will go with our blessing. One policy that our President Melissa Fischer has at Altona Magic, is that the club won't stand in anyone's way of progress."

After 111 appearances and 17 goals for Gretna, Baldacchino's professionalism is quite clear when asked of his aspirations in Australia.

"I've come over here to play football. It's a different style of play compared to the SPL, but I‘ve been quite impressed with the technical side of it and the competitiveness of the teams. I'm treating here as full-time and once I'm playing every week I'll be even more settled. Ultimately, if you adopt the right attitude it shouldn't matter whether there's 60,000 people at the park or 60 – you've still got to do the job on the pitch. Your ability is judged on the park, not on how many fans are there to watch. The pressure is to perform and the pressure you put yourself under is basically the same anyway. I think it's a great challenge for me and I'm really looking forward to it."

The story continues...

Gretna Latest

A bid by supporters to try to retain a football team in Gretna has been successful.

Concerned fans formed an action group after their club went into administration and dropped out of the Scottish Football League.

It was feared it could be the end of football in the town, but Gretna FC have now been admitted to the East of Scotland League.

The newly-formed club will start its campaign on 9 August.

A series of meetings have been held in the town since the team hit financial troubles and fell out of the SFL.

They culminated in the successful bid for East of Scotland status.

However, the new team will not be able to play its games at Raydale Park, the traditional home of the club.

It will play its home matches at the Everholm, in nearby Annan, after negotiating a deal with Annandale and Eskdale Sports Trust.

- From the BBC Website

By James Taylor
Photo by Darryl Kennedy

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KOVACIC JETS OUT

While Lagana Heads For Coast Road

ANTUN Kovacic was set to join Newcastle Jets as we went to press in a move that left some at Foxtel Cup outfit Richmond dismayed at the way his transfer was effected.

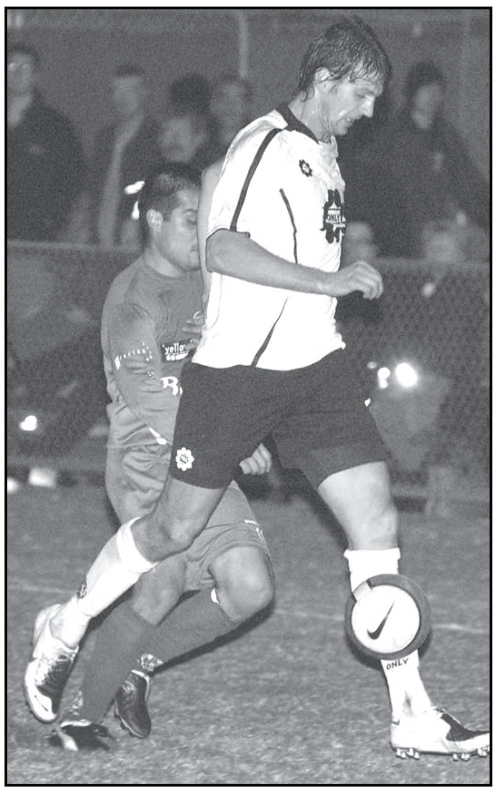
We believe that no-one from Newcastle nor Kovacic's manager contacted Richmond throughout the process (up until last Friday evening at least) and wondered how many top-flight leagues in world football can have a contracted player switching clubs with just the player himself informing his club that he is leaving.

Meanwhile Oakleigh Cannons' young gun Frankie Lagana may be set to sign with Central Coast Mariners. Lagana flew out late last week for another trial with the Lawrie McKinna-coached outfit, hopeful of securing a contract. He flew back to Melbourne for Oakleigh's clash with Preston Lions on Sunday.

As per transfer regulations, Richmond and Oakleigh will receive a capped amount from the Jets and Mariners respectively, a strange set-up indeed whereby A-League clubs can pay thousands of dollars more to overseas clubs for imported players while our clubs, who desperately need to have serious money ploughed into the local game, receive a pittance. Which makes one wonder how aligned, if at all, are these regulations with FIFA regulations? Does Football Federation Australia have firm legal ground to stand on by capping the transfer fee of a contracted player?

Any A–league club confronted with a transfer fee for an overseas player has no option but to wheel and deal with that player's club. Here, they can legally snub the local feeder club if they so please. It's ironic that some transfers of contracted players between Foxtel Cup clubs this season have far exceeded the capped transfer fee for players joining A–League outfits.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE



Flying the coup: Kovacic swaps being an Eagle for a Jet.

CLEARANCE KERFUFFLE

Port avoids misconduct charges

HOT on the heels of Football Federation Victoria prosecuting and losing a case which in part involved Stonnington not gaining an international clearance for one of its players comes news that Port Melbourne also has escaped the wrath of the tribunal for a similar charge.

What is significant about the two cases was the different wording of the charges. Stonnington's misconduct charges failed to mention "failing to comply with the Registration Regulations" and "subsequently fielding (the player in question) while ineligible in various FFV sanctioned games" which were part of the wording of misconduct charges levelled at Port Melbourne.

One would have thought that after missing out on a successful prosecution of Stonnington that the changed wording of the alleged infringement involving Port Melbourne (an action initiated by a rival club) would have finally pinned the tail on the donkey, so to speak.

Not so. Port Melbourne was found not guilty and there are more rumblings of discontent among rival clubs in South-East Division Two.

Quote of the week goes to Peninsula Strikers coach George Hughes: "The next boy that turns up on our doorstep and says he's from Argentina is getting told that he's from Aspendale!"

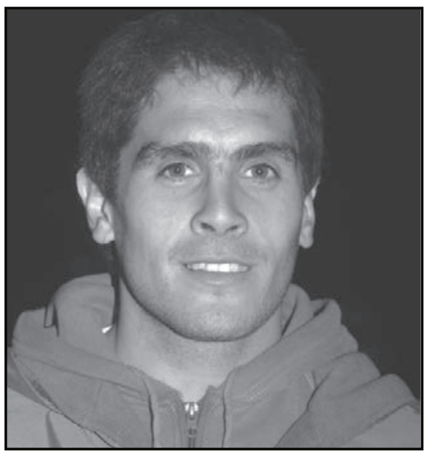
The reasons for his discontent are twofold. First, Strikers had to wait for a few weeks before gaining an international clearance for one of their players earlier this season. Second, the club recently failed to convince FFV that a young player from Frankston Pines, who no longer figures in Dougie Hodgson's plans, be allowed to join Strikers on a third transfer within this season. FFV can, at its discretion, allow a third move for players but it rejected Striker's plea and now Frud Bezhan is back at Pines when his development would have been enhanced through playing senior football at Strikers.

Maybe it's a case of rules are rules – sometimes. Not gaining an international clearance and playing a therefore ineligible player can carry a points deduction penalty, a severe punishment that the current tribunal seems loathe to mete out. What sort of message does that send to clubs?

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

PORT MELBOURNE Sharks

ALVEREZ ARRIVES *Kingston City pulls off Boca Coup*



KINGSTON City recruit Hugo Orlando Alvarez (pictured) flew in to Melbourne from Argentina a fortnight ago and Kingston coach Sam Elmazi has high hopes for the former Boca Juniors attacking midfielder.

Elmazi was keeping the identity of his boom recruit secret until we tracked him down at a recent Foxtel Cup contest where he finally confirmed that he had signed a player that he hopes could well go on to interest Melbourne Victory. And Alvarez's pedigree is bound to turn a few heads.

"He's over on holiday but he'll play a few games for us and already I've got a Premier League club doing my head in wanting to sign him," said Elmazi. "He's only just turned 22 but he toured Mexico and the US with Boca's youth team and he's come off the bench in some senior games as well."

Elmazi is also Alvarez's agent. "I only do it for a few players. I'm very choosy," said the Kingston coach. The talented Alvarez made his debut on Saturday night in Kingston's clash with Division One championship challenger Dandenong Thunder.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

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FOXTEL CUP STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Melbourne Knights	20	11	8	1	38	19	41
Green Gully Cavaliers	20	11	7	2	33	13	40
Altona Magic	20	10	7	3	30	21	37
Oakleigh Cannons	19	9	5	5	23	16	32
Richmond Eagles	20	9	4	7	48	28	31
Heidelberg Utd	20	8	7	5	28	22	31
A.I.S	20	8	4	8	33	28	28
Preston Lions	19	8	3	8	26	35	27
South Melbourne	20	8	2	10	28	25	26
Coburg Utd	20	7	3	10	24	31	24
Whittlesea Zebras	20	5	7	8	26	28	22
Western Suburbs	20	4	6	10	19	31	18
Fawkner Blues	20	4	3	13	18	50	15
Frankston Pines	20	3	2	15	13	40	11

RESULTS

Richmond Eagles	1 - 1	Whittlesea Zebras
Frankston Pines	2 - 3	Altona Magic
AIS	0 - 2	Western Suburbs
Green Gully	1 - 2	South Melbourne
Preston Lions	2 - 0	Oakleigh Cannons
Melbourne Knights	0 - 1	Coburg United
Fawkner Blues	0 - 6	Heidelberg United

UNDER 21 DETAILS

Richmond 1 Whittlesea Zebras 0, Frankston Pines 0 Altona Magic 2, V.I.S 0 Western Suburbs 0, Green Gully Cavaliers 2 South Melbourne 0, Melbourne Knights 1 Coburg Utd 0, Fawkner Blues 2 Heidelberg Utd 0, Preston Lions 0 Oakleigh Cannons 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Green Gully Cavaliers	20	14	2	4	34	15	44
V.I.S	20	11	6	3	37	15	39
Richmond	20	12	0	8	41	25	36
Melbourne Knights	20	9	6	5	26	28	33
Preston Lions	19	9	5	5	28	17	32
Coburg Utd	20	9	3	8	33	30	30
Oakleigh Cannons	19	8	5	6	21	17	29
Fawkner Blues	18	8	3	7	22	23	24
Western Suburbs	19	7	5	7	24	24	23
Whittlesea Zebras	19	7	2	10	31	36	23
Altona Magic	20	7	1	12	20	31	22
Frankston Pines	20	6	2	12	14	23	20
South Melbourne	20	4	5	11	15	35	17
Heidelberg Utd	20	2	3	15	18	45	9

THE TOP MARKSMEN

Player	Matches	Goals
Cardozo, Pablo Richmond SC	17	14
Barisic, Andrew Melbourne Knights	18	13
Curcija, Michael Altona Magic SC	20	12
Naidovski, Jason A.I.S	13	12
Cardozo, Richard Richmond SC	19	10
Lagana, Frankie M Oakleigh Cannons	16	10
Karpeh, Jerry Whittlesea Zebras	20	9
Nikolic, Joel Green Gully	19	9
Sapazovski, Johnny Preston Lions SC	18	7
Catalano, Michael Richmond SC	20	6
Danning, Kofi D A.I.S	19	6
De Moraes, Fernando South Melbourne	19	6
Krncevic, Jesse J Richmond SC	20	6

ROUND 21 FIXTURES

FRANKSTON PINES
V
RICHMOND EAGLES
Monterey Reserve
Fri 18 Jul KO 8:30PM

A.I.S
V
PRESTON LIONS
Rumbalara Oval, Shepparton
Sat 19 Jul KO 5:00PM

COBURG UTD
V
FAWKNER BLUES
Knights Stadium
Sat 19 Jul KO 6:00PM

HEIDELBERG UTD
V
ALTONA MAGIC
Olympic Village
Sun 20 Jul KO 3:00PM

SOUTH MELBOURNE
V
MELBOURNE KNIGHTS
Bob Jane Stadium
Sun 20 Jul KO 3:00PM

OAKLEIGH CANNONS
V
GREEN GULLY
Jack Edwards Reserve
Sun 20 Jul KO 5:00PM

WHITTLESEA ZEBRAS
V
WESTERN SUBURBS
Epping Soccer Stdm
Sun 20 Jul KO 5:00PM

Please check the
FFV website
for any fixture changes.

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MELBOURNE KNIGHTS

0 - 1

COBURG UNITED

COBURG DENTS KNIGHTS ARMOUR

Josifovski Returns A Winner

The Melbourne Knights twenty game unbeaten run has come to a dramatic halt, falling at home to co-tenants Coburg United at Knights Stadium on Sunday evening.

Alex Josifovski who has not featured since Round 14, returned to the Coburg squad, coming off the bench to secure his side all three points.

In extremely windy conditions, favouring the Knights in the first half, neither side made early impressions as the weather made it difficult to construct any fluent play.

Eleven minutes in, the Coburg defensive almost gifted Andrew Barisic a goal with a weak back pass, luckily Tomas Kovar was alert to the danger and cleared just before the striker could pounce, much to the relief of the Coburg defence.

Coburg midfielder Ross Thompson tried his luck from distance, and almost caught Knights keeper Loncaric out, with his shot bouncing just wide of the upright.

Midway though the half, the Knights broke after a Coburg corner with Barisic playing a cross-field ball finding Franjic on the wing, the midfield cut the ball back for Joe Spiteri, however the veteran striker could only scoop his effort over the bar.

Backs to the wall stuff: The Coburg wall stands tall against an Anthony Pelikan free-kick

Match winner Alex Josifovski

It was time for Knights defence to cough up the ball, when James Cumming's back pass looked to have been intercepted by Nicholas Lazarevski, however Loncaric was to quick for the striker and cleared the danger.

With the half coming to a end, the Knights piled on the pressure and were unlucky not to get on the scoresheet, credited to some desperate Coburg defending. First it was Ivan Franjic's shot that was cleared on the line, before Matthew Grbesa's headed effort was also cleared by some goal line heroics.

Coburg began the second half with their tail's up, with plenty of confidence going forward supported with a strong wind. Within three minutes of the re-start they had the Knights defence scrambling back to clear on the line. Magnacca also tested his luck with a free-kick and found Loncaric equal to the task.

At the other end, Spiteri and Franjic linked well and set up Anthony Pelikan for a golden opportunity on goal, a chance the midfielder could not hit the target with.

Goran Lozanovski then made the decision that would decide the fate of the game, when he bought on Josifovski in the 58th minute, it only took the striker ten minutes to break the deadlock, when he found himself in good position to drill home the goal, after some good work from Andrew Vlahos.

The Knights, who have made a habit of scoring last minute goals this season, put the pressure on the defence of Coburg, and had their chances to level the scores, with Barisic twice being foiled by keeper Tomas Kovar.

The game was to end in controversy, when substitute Zoran Petrevski looked to have levelled the scores deep into injury-time, however the referee ruled the ball had not crossed the line despite strong protests from players and supports alike.

Next week Knights travel to Bob Jane Stadium to take on cross town rival's South Melbourne, while Coburg will be aiming to two wins on the trot when they face relegation favourite Fawkner Blues at Knight's Stadium.

MATCH STATS:
Shots: MK 12 CU 7
Target: MK 6 CU 4
Corners: MK 11 CU 4

Melbourne Knights Line Up: Loncaric, Elvin, Grbesa, Franjic, Cumming (Zahra 78'), Iosifidis, Watson (Piorkowski 64'), Pelikan,
Timmonds, Barisic, Spiteri (Petrevski 67')

Not Used: Ozdemir, Kiratzoglou

Yellow Cards: Grbesa 56'

Coburg United Line Up: Kovar, Kovacevic, Nastevsk, Pir, Beni, Baser (Sumbul 83'), Vlahos, Lazarevski (Josifovski 58'), Magnacca,
Tichy (Gurpinar 90') THompson.

Not Used: Hrehoresin, Davani

Yellow Cards: Josifovski 77'

Goals: Josifovski (68')

MOM: Tomas Kovar (CU)

Crowd: 1000 @ Knights Stadium

By Andrew Fisher

Photos by Steve Starek

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FOXTEL CUP
Round 20

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT
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WESTERN SUBURBS

SUBURBS DENT AIS FINALS HOPES

Oksuz Scores 6th Goal In 9 Games

Western Suburbs has renewed its hopes of beating the drop by coming away with a surprise 2-0 victory over the AIS in Canberra on Saturday night.

Goals by Tommi Razov and Serkan Oksuz, his 6th in nine games since transferring to Suburbs from Coburg United, dented the AIS finals aspirations and could possibly force the youngsters from Canberra out of the top six for the first time this season.

Suburb's first goal was a clinical strike by Razov after the 20' minutes against the run of play. Until then, the AIS were enjoying a bountiful amount of possession and showing dominance, but not really making any cutting moves.

Suburbs played a patient game and absorbed plenty of AIS pressure.

Kofi Danning was looking dangerous for the AIS, while Eddie Cetkin put in a sterling performance in the central defender position for Suburbs and didn't concede a tackle all throughout the contest.

Although it felt like it was being dictated to for most parts of the evening, Suburbs made the most of their restricted chances.

The killer blow was struck in the 70th minute when a similar move to the first goal saw Suburbs dispossess a square ball by the home side and then proceed to hit them hard on the break.

Serkan Oksuz finished off the attack by using his pace to round the keeper and tap the ball into an empty net, much to the delight of the small band of travelling Blues fans.

A delighted Western Suburbs coach Ken Murphy said after the match, "The AIS are a very good bunch of players and very well drilled, but probably that aspect almost makes them a bit too predictable. They keep possession extremely well, knock it around well and from that perspective there was nothing really unpredictable about them. But if you keep your discipline you're always a chance against the AIS, I think."

Murphy also added that Suburbs caught the AIS at a good time, "This time of year is a good time to catch them as well. They've got a lot going on with many players trying to get A-league contracts, so I felt as though they were a little disrupted. Fortunately for us it worked."

Asked if he thought Suburbs are a good chance to stay up, Murphy replied, "If we can beat Whittlesea next week then we're right back into it. You've got to take some pride out of it and put on some good performances. I've stopped looking at the ladder – I think it's more important we just take pride in our performances and stop trying to forecast things. "

"We have to look at what we're doing week in and week out. We've been extremely competitive in every match we've played, but we lost to Fawkner and Frankston Pines, which was a disaster from our perspective. When you do things like that then you're almost cutting your own throat. I just want to beat Whittlesea next week."

An unnecessary red card to Suburbs' keeper Stepjan Gal in the last minute of play was the only blotch on the day for the visitors. Gal, who played a solid game until then, came out for a long through ball and clumsily took out the AIS forward, when fellow defenders looked to have the situation covered.

Nick Tolios went in goal but with only a couple of kicks left on the clock the AIS ran out of time take advantage of the extra man.

Match details:
Suburbs:
Goals: Razov 20', Oksuz 70',

AIS:
Goals: None

Man of the match: Eddie Cetkin (WS)

Crowd: 150
Venue: AIS Fields, Canberra

Serkan Oksuz, seen here in action for Suburbs in the 2-1 defeat by Frankston last week, was back on song on the weekend when he scored in the 2-0 away win against the AIS.

By Gordon Bennet
Photo by Darryl Kennedy

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PRESTON LIONS

2 - 0

OAKLEIGH CANNONS

RESURGENT LIONS!

Cannons sunk by two late Lions goals

Preston's resurgent season continued with late goals to Tony Sterjovski and Johnny Sapasovski enough to defeat the Oakleigh Cannons by 2-0 and leave the Lions knocking on the door of the Foxtel Cup top six.

In an even contest from start to finish, the game was a must win for the Lions. A win would provide the reigning Foxtel Cup champions a chance of making the finals and having a tilt at defending their crown, whilst a loss would have meant fighting for Victorian top flight football survival.

It was Oakleigh however that started strongest and should have secured the lead in the tenth minute. The Lions defence froze after Frankie Lagana broke clear from Les Anastasiou and anticipated the assistant's flag to be raised for the offside move. The flag was kept down however and Lagana strolled into the box, but had his shot saved from ten yards out by goalkeeper Lupce Acevski.

Minutes later, it was the Cannons on the back foot and lucky not to concede first. With a whirlwind breeze making conditions for aerial play difficult, Cannon's duo Adam Ewin and Adrian Cagalj mistimed clearing a long ball delivered into the edge of the Oakleigh box. Lions forward Robert Dolevski swooped on the ball, but failed to convert in front of an open goal from eighteen yards.

Despite the conditions, both teams played attacking football and the Cannons were nearly rewarded with the opening goal in the fifteenth minute, only to be denied by a brilliant double save by Acevski. Winning a free kick from twenty five yards, the set piece was taken by Billy Damianos. Damianos's ball found Ari Drakos on the back post but was denied by Acevski from close range. With Acevski grounded from the initial save, Cannon's captain Felix Rosman fired in another shot from six yards which this time Acevski saved with his feet.

The see–saw affair continued as both teams created multiple chances to break the deadlock on goal. In the latter stages of the half, the Lions were lucky not to concede an own goal, with Anastasiou and Acevski failing to communicate who would deal with a Billy Damianos set piece. Both players contested the ball and with Acevski off his line, Anastasiou won the ball and flicked it across an open goal which luckily for the Lions, drifted inches away off the back post.

Acevski's counterpart in goal, Adrian Cagalj was then in the thick of the action immediately after the restart of play, saving Robert Dolevski's shot from the edge of the box. The Cannons failed to capitalise on the counter when Trent Waterson's cross found an unmarked Ari Drakos six yards from goal and the free header was sent over the bar to the relief of Acevski. Oakleigh missed a similar chance in the sixtieth minute, when Lagana delivered a cross on the right hand side and found Brandon Vassallo in front of an open goal, only to send his shot over the bar. The assistant eventually found Vassallo to be in an offside position from Lagana's cross, but it only looked like a matter of time when Oakleigh would snatch the lead.

Oakleigh captain Felix Rosman keeps Johnnny Sapazovski at bay as the ball nears the line

Nick Schwal beats Milos Lujic to the ball

Despite being on the back foot early in the second half, Preston withstood the Cannon's charge and came home with a wet sail in the final twenty minutes. Urged on by a parochial home crowd, Preston began to string a few forward movements and pressure the Oakleigh defence. Their persistence was rewarded in the eightieth minute when Lions midfielder Blaze Georgioski's ball found Tony Sterjovski running into space along the left side of midfield. Sterjovski advanced into the box and finished to beat Cagalj with a low drive on goal sending the home fans into raptures. Five minutes later, Preston doubled their lead catching the Cannons on the counter. In search of an equaliser, Oakleigh pressed players forward, but didn't count on new substitute Igor Kolevski's long clearance deep in the Preston half to find Johnny Sapazovski – the sole Preston player in the Oakleigh half. With Oakleigh defenders Adam Ewin and Scott Webster surrounding the Lions striker, Sapazovski received a kind bounce from the long ball and tussled his way deep into the box. Finishing from a few yards out, Sapazovski's shot was deflected by Cagalj but eventually trickled into the back of the net to guarantee their second victory in succession – a first for the Lions this season.

Finishing 2-0 winners, the result was more than three points for the Lions, it ensured their season would focus on clinching an unlikely finals birth, rather than fight off relegation. Such is the evenness of the competition, the Lions are technically not safe from relegation, yet a win next week against the Australian Institute of Sport in Shepparton could see the champions on the verge of entering the top six for the first time this season. As for the Cannons, the opportunity to rebound from the loss will be tested when they entertain Green Gully at Jack Edwards Reserve.

Match details:
Preston Lions: L. Acevski, M. Bosevski, L. Anastasiou, R. Dolevski (B. Micovski 75'), J. Sapazovski, T. Sterjovski (V. Pititto 88'), M. Miskas, I. Arsovski (I. Kolevski 63'), N. Schwal, C. Toleski, B. Georgioski

Scorers: Tony. Sterjovski (80'), Johnny Sapazovski (85')

Yellow cards: Les Anastasiou (27'), Igor Arsovski (46')
Red cards: Nil

Oakleigh Cannons: A. Cagalj, A. Ewin, F. Rosman, S. Drakos, M. Lujic, B. Vassallo (J. Nilo 70'), T. Waterson (J. Munoz 65'), F. Lagana (T. Apostolikas 77'), B. Damianos, A. Drakos, S. Webster.

Scorers: Nil

Yellow Cards: Scott Webster (30'), Milos Lujic (45'), Adam Ewin (65')
Red Cards: Nil

Man of the Match: Nicholas Schwal (Preston Lions)

Crowd: 1000
Venue: B.T Connor Reserve

By Simon McCuskey

Photo by John Punshon

FAWKNER
BLUES

0 - 6

HEIDELBERG
UNITED

WARRIORS WALLOP THE BLUES

Six of the Bergers' Best Stuns Fawkner

Heidelberg United have recorded their biggest win of the 2008 season at Fawkner this afternoon, handing out a 6-0 thrashing to the home side. After taking a 1-0 lead to the half-time break, the 'Bergers rattled in four goals in a frenzied 10 minute spell to all but condemn Fawkner to relegation from the Premier League.

After a fairly even first 25 minutes of play, Heidelberg's vastly superior midfield strength began to tell as the visitors began to take full control of the match. The spectators saw a lopsided second half, in which a rampant Heidelberg team tore their opposition to shreds with neat football & superb finishing, including two stunning goals hit from more than 25 metres punctuating an afternoon of vastly different fortunes for either side.

The game was played in fine but cool conditions, with a strong northerly breeze combined with a bumpy pitch making ball control difficult for all players. Fawkner, aided by the breeze, started the stronger, with Chillico & Greechan looking to pressure the visitors' defence. The first chance of the match feel to Petrolito, but his first-time shot was well wide, A Chillico free kick was well met by Youssef, whose headed effort bounced up and off the crossbar, and scrambled away by the desperate Heidelberg defence. This near miss seemed to spark the visitors into action, and with Hockless, Ouliaris, Aleksovski & Gasparis gradually gaining the ascendancy in the middle, Heidelberg looked threatening. Mark Tsiorlas might twice have given Heidelberg the lead, once from a low shot well saved by Fawkner 'keeper Fiorenza, then from a headed effort that came of the crossbar. A neat one-two between Ouliaris & Aleksovski on the left culminated with Ouliaris blasting the ball high over the bar from close range. It was no surprise to thus see the visitors take the lead after 43 minutes, as their dominance was rewarded with a clever shot by Aleksovski caught Fiorenza flat footed. A long throw by Hockless had been flicked on by Stefanou at the near post, and Aleksovski was on hand to give Heidelberg the lead just before the main break.

The first 10 minutes of the second stanza broke the game wide apart, as Heidelberg enjoyed a purple patch that yielded four goals. It all began in the 46th minute, when a well-placed cross by Aleksovski found Tsiorlas, whose header was deflected into the net off Fawkner's defender Daniel Rocco to leave the score at 2-0 to Heidelberg. Just four minutes later, it was 3-0, after Denis Alilovic struck a powerful left foot shot from all of 30 metres. The ball swerved & dipped into the top left hand corner, completely beating a hapless Fiorenza.

Gasparis then joined the scorers list a further two minutes on, after he was well picked out by a long ball by Tsiorlas. The midfielder was able to cut inside his man, and fire a low shot from close range past Fiorenza to make it 4-0 after 52 minutes. The best goal of the match came in the 56th minute, when Drossos played the ball short to Vassiliadis from a free kick. Vassiliadis took aim from 30 metres, and let go a stinging right foot shot which flew in off the left hand post – truly a shot reminiscent of any of Steven Gerrard's best efforts – to leave the score at 5-0.

At this stage, both coaches started wringing the changes, Fawkner with a view to prevent further damage, and Heidelberg looking to give their youngsters on the bench a decent hit-out in the last half hour. Substitute Chris Reid played a hand in the sixth goal, after his shot was only parried by Fiorenza, allowing Gasparis to tap in a simple goal to complete the rout with just 15 minutes to play. Fawkner may have had a late consolation goal, but Chris Geechan hit his shot over the bar, after he had been put through by Youssef. With the resultant 6-0 win, Heidelberg climbs back into the top six, whereas Fawkner look all but certain to relegated, stuck in second-last position on the ladder. The Blues travel to Knights Stadium next Saturday night to take on Coburg United, whilst Heidelberg United hosts Altona Magic next Sunday at the Olympic Village.

Final Score at CB Smith Reserve today: Fawkner Blues 0 lost to Heidelberg United 6 (Aleksovski 43', Tsiorlas 46', Alilovic 50'. Gasparis 52', 75', Vassiliadis 56')

Under 21's result: Fawkner 2 def Heidelberg 0

Crowd: approx 600

Man of the Match:
Denis Alilovic (Heidelberg United)

Team Line Ups:

Fawkner Blues:
Fiorenza – Anifaloyin, Rocco, Tuck, Napoli – Pricipato, Chillico (Alibeyi 50'),Vasquez (Zilic 65'), Petrolito – Youssef, Greechan

Subs not used:
Masic, Juric, Bazzano (GK)

Yellow cards:
Tuck (25'), Napoli (84')

Red cards:
nil

Heidelberg United:
Gavalas – Vassiliadis, Stefanou, Jones, Drossos – Aleksovksi (Groenewald 54'), Ouliaris (Paton 77'), Hockless (Reid 62'), Gasparis – Alilovic, Tsiorlas

Subs not used:
Laino (GK)

Yellow cards:
nil

Red cards:
nil

By John Fotinos

Photos by Daniel Flis

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17

Goalmouth action from Heidelberg United's six goal route of local rivals Fawkner Blues. Denis Alilovic rises high to win a header in the box.

FRANKSTON PINES

2 - 3

ALTONA MAGIC

MAGIC CLEAR INTO THIRD

Pines Show Fighting Spirit

Altona Magic's Steve Laurie towers over his Frankston Pines opponent on the way to a tricky 3-2 away victoy on the peninsula on Friday night.

Altona Magic have consolidated third place in the Foxtel Cup with a hard fought 3-2 away win at Frankston Pines on Friday night.

Frankston Pines were coming off a 2-1 win the previous week against fellow relegation battlers Western Suburbs, whilst Altona Magic had the luxury of a week's rest due to the break in the competition.

Since Doug Hodgson took over the coaching duties at the Pines they've have managed to knock off league heavy weights Oakleigh Cannons and Green Gully, and anticipation was high at Monterey Reserve prior to kick-off that another top six scalp could be there for the taking.

The Magic however, fully aware of Frankston's recent giant killing exploits, had other ideas and opened the scoring through Micheal Curcija just after the half hour mark.

Curcija punished the home side with his 11th goal of the season after pouncing on a loose ball that was spilt by Pines keeper Peter Zois.

That was basically the last piece of action Curcija was involved in because moments later he was substituted, coming off for what appeared to be a slight niggle.

While Pines showed plenty of spirit and endeavour, the Magic's experience prevailed in the first –half and the score at the break was 1-0.

17 year old Phillip Hawkins made his full debut for the Pines replacing injured Jason Dimozantos at centre back and had a solid performance against one of the league's most potent strike force.

The Magic extended its lead in the 52' when Pece Siveski converted a penalty and gave Pines a mountain to climb.

A few minutes later however, Pines managed to reduce the deficit when another penalty was awarded to the home side.

Craig Smart stepped up to take the kick, which was saved, but Andrew Skledar showed his prowess in the box to pounce on the crumbs and hit home the rebound.

Pines continue to press forward looking for a equalise, but it was the Magic who were hovering most dangerously, especially when it came to set pieces.

A series of three corners in a row exemplified the pressure the Magic continued to put the home side under.

In the 77' the set piece penetration paid off when Henry Fa'arado found himself unmarked in the box to head home from close range and regain the two goal buffer.

Not one to lie down, Pines replied almost immediately once again when Simon Muir slotted home in the 80' to set up a frantic final stanza.

Chances fell both ways, but Magic showed their quality to hang on and avoid a potential banana skin fixture.

Hodsgon said after the match, "I think Vlado (Tortevski, Magic coach) must have had some sweat on his forehead for the last 25-30 minutes because I think we deserved a point at the minimum. Don't get me wrong, Magic are a quality outfit with some talented individual players, but I thought they were pretty lucky to get away with the result."

Asked if he thought his side can avoid the drop, Hodgson was adamant the battle was far from over, " We don't even know how many teams are meant to go down, but in the meantime we've just got to keep going. I think we're the only country in the world that isn't playing according to FIFA rules. We're not good enough for FIFA rules instead we have to play to FFV rules. They don't make it easy for us do they. We'll see what happens, but it's not over yet. Mathematically it's pretty hard, yeah sure, but it can still be done. I wish I had the team a little bit earlier because it's all just starting to come together now.

Match details:
Frankston Pines:
P.Zois, P.Hawkins, D.Black, T.Malcolm, S.Booysen (M.Morris-Thomas 79'), A.Skledar, C.Smart, J.Reichnein, S.Mur, T.Saad (A.Psonis 79'), C.Metcalfe (A.Fedljevic 59').

Goals: Skledar 55', Mur 80'.
Yellow cards: Hawkins, Saad.
Red cards: None

Altona Magic:
B.Jevdejic, C.Anthopoulos, S,Laurie, D.Mladenovic, H.Fa'arado, C.Recchia, M.Curcija (P.Cergovski 38'), P.Siveski, T.McSorely, P.Riccobene, E.Masi (N.Kalmar 90").

Goals: Curcija 35', Siveski 56', Fa'arado77'.

Yellow cards: Anthopoulos
Red cards: None

Crowd: 400
Venue: Monterey Reserve

By James Taylor

Photo by Darryl Kennedy

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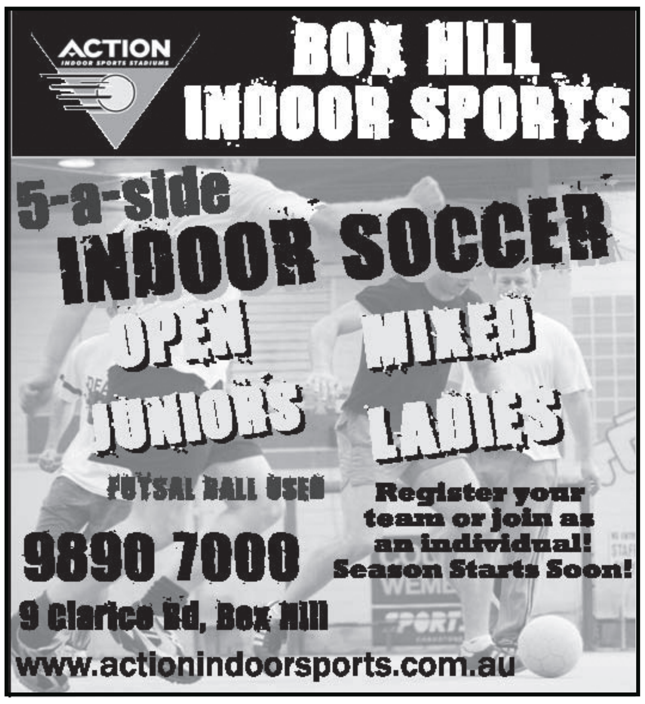

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Billy Rice (1938-2008)

SOCCEROO STRONGMAN

Australian Football Loses A Legend

The death of Billy Rice last week after a long struggle with illness removed another connection with Australia's first attempt to qualify for the World Cup in 1965.

His fortitude in that exhausting campaign was noted by Laurie Schwab who wrote that he was one of the few players—another was Nigel Shepherd—whose reputations withstood the heavy losses to North Korea. He went on, 'Rice collapsed in the dressing room with stomach pains at half-time of the 3-1 game but because substitutes were not allowed then, he staggered back onto the field and played the second half in a daze.'

Billy Rice was born in Belfast on 12 September 1938 in Belfast and came to Australia with his parents in 1955. In Northern Ireland he had played with Distillery as a junior and he joined Footscray City on arrival in Melbourne. He stayed with the club for the whole of his career as it became Footscray Capri and later (Footscray) JUST. He retired in 1972 after racking up around 500 games for his club and 24 for Victoria. He won seven caps with the Socceroos including the World Cup qualifiers in 1965, and games against AS Roma in 1966, Scotland in 1967 and as a second half substitute for another Victorian defender, Stan Ackerley, against Greece in 1969.

With JUST, Billy Rice won the Victorian State League in 1963, 1969 and 1971 and the Dockerty Cup in 1963. When Rale Rasic arrived in 1962 he noted Billy Rice along with Frank Micic, Jim Milisavljevic and Cec Dickson as the top class players in the side. Rasic went on to coach Billy Rice before leading the Socceroos to the World Cup in Germany in 1974.

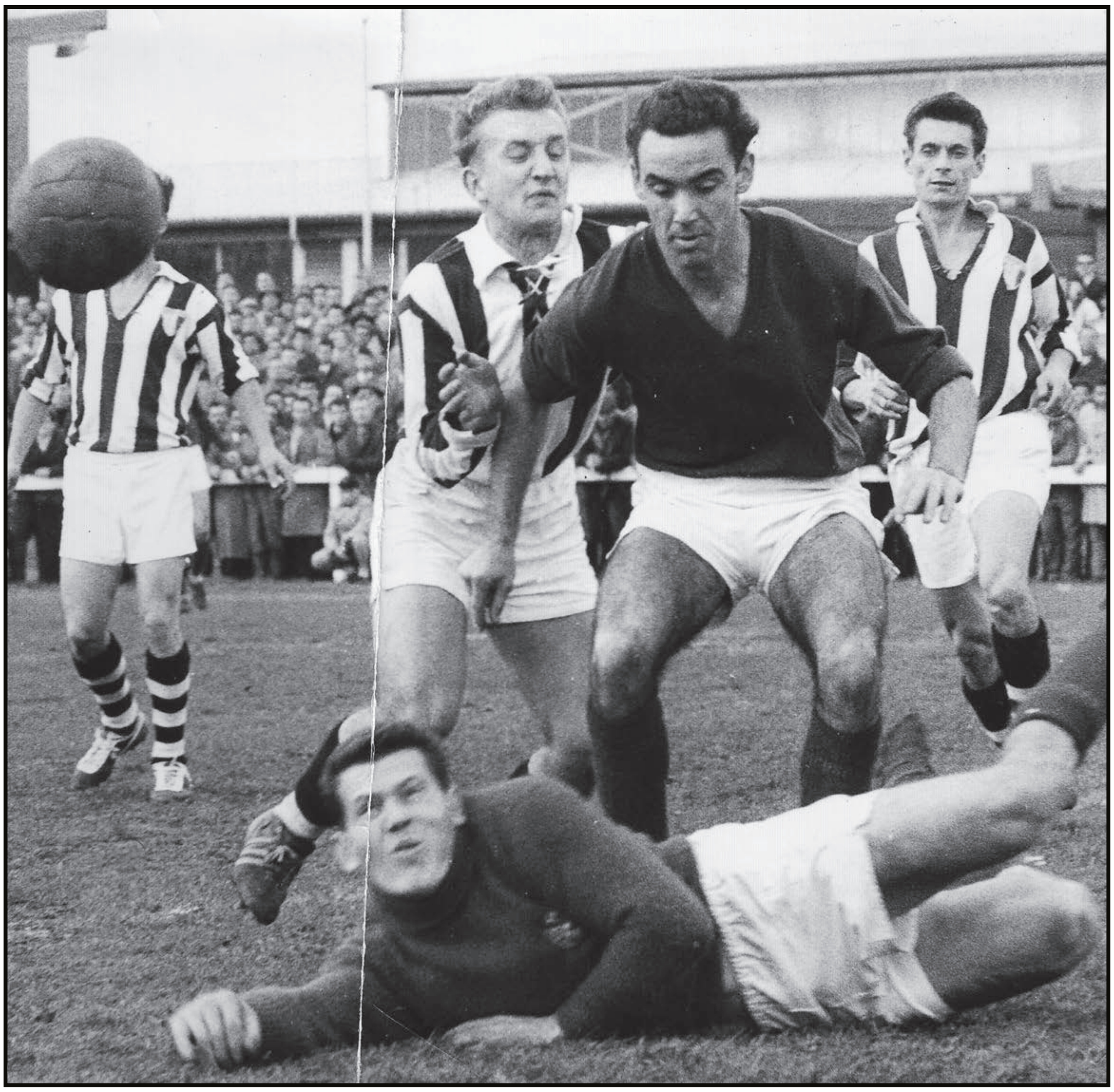
A solid defender, usually centre half, Billy Rice was totally uncompromising on the field, but a delightful companion off it. He opposed Sunday football, considering that the day of rest. In 1960 he was bracketed with former winner and Footscray team-mate Bob Wemyss as a potential recipient of the Argus Medal, but was pipped by Vic Janczyk of Polonia that year. At the time Footscray Capri was at the bottom of the ladder and the club was relegated at the end of the season. In 1962–63 Capri was effectively taken over by JUST with the new team playing at Schintler Reserve and Billy Rice returned to the State League in a season which saw the club sweep all before it.

Fred Villiers was an admirer and wrote an approving article about his robust style of play. He had Billy appear on World of Sport in the brief soccer segment and his son Brett remembers that his dad got a pen for his contribution. Those were the days when soccer got a very limited exposure on the mainstream media, and had to battle hard for what there was.

Words by Roy Hay

Photos sourced by Roy Hay

Visit www.goalweekly.com for previous Roy Hay's Blast From The Past



Billy Rice protects his keeper in a match for JUST against Juventus.
Photo: Uwe Kuessner, Photo-UK. Les Shorrock collection, Deakin University Library.

Billy Rice slides in for Victoria. Source: Laurie Schwab, The Socceroos and their Opponents.

Billy Rice Fact File

Place of Birth:
Belfast,
Northern Ireland

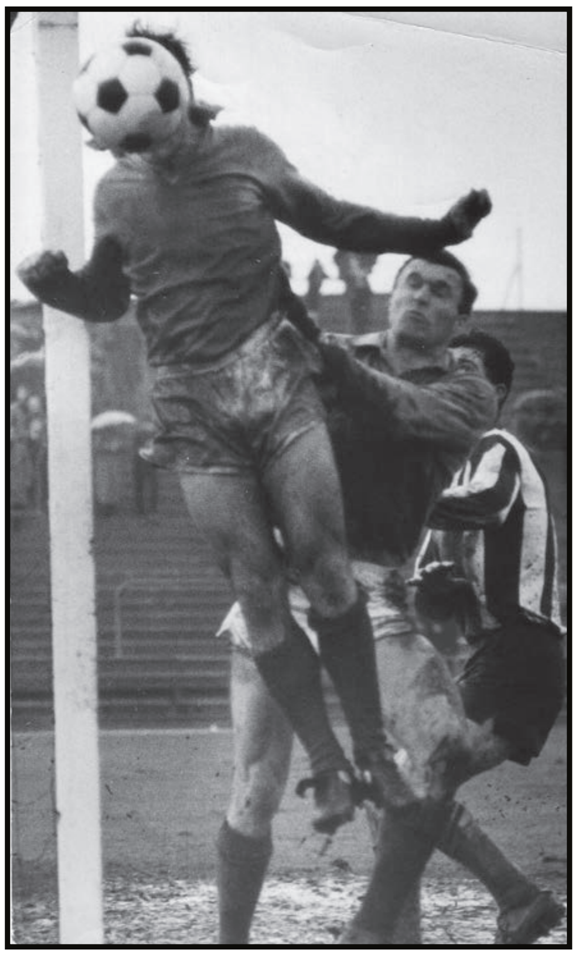
Position: Defender

Socceroo Honours
Total 7 apps. 0 gls.
1965 - Chelsea, North Korea, North Korea, Hong Kong
1966 - A.S.Roma
1967 - Scotland
1969 - Greece

Victorian Representative Honours
1965 - Torpedo Moscow, Chelsea

Playing Record
JUST (VSL)

Information from ozfootball.net



Billy Rice (centre) in action for JUST. Photo: Les Shorrock collection, Deakin University Library.

Round Sixteen

INTER HUMBLES SOUTH

Ashy Bounce Back, Bergers on the March

Heidelberg goalie Angela Vidic gets down to smother the ball off the boot of Deanna Neceski (Eltham North). The ball IS in the picture. Can you find it?

Ashburton bounced back with a successful road trip to Bendigo in round 16 of the WPL after their top of the table loss to Box Hill last weekend.

League leaders Box Hill got a comfortable win under their belt, Heidelberg defeated Eltham to snatch a top five spot while Keilor Park upset the Comets.

Ashburton managed to put last weeks' loss to Box Hill behind them when they defeated the Bendigo Vipers at home 2-0. Rosey Mortellaro and Paola Bernini scored for Ashburton with both goals coming in the first half.

Despite being without their regular keeper and playing part of the second half with 10 players when an injury occurred after they had used their allocated substitutions, the Vipers managed to hold Ashburton goaless in the second half which, according to coach Peter Richardson, "was a pretty amazing result" in the circumstances.

Richardson said his young team, made up predominantly of under-17 players, have adjusted 'amazingly well' to the team's promotion to WPL this year considering that the team doesn't train as a squad with players coming from as far as Shepperton, Cobram and Benalla.

The Vipers stay at seventh in the WPL while Ashburton retain second place.

Box Hill handed out a football lesson to South Melbourne with a 5-0 thrashing with four of their five goals coming in the first half.

Jessica Humble scored two for Box Hill, while Amanda Lawless and Louisa Bisby chipped in for one each and to add insult to injury for Souths there was an own goal in Box Hill's tally.

Box Hill's coach Ariel Reigosa said the game against South Melbourne was of a very different standard to last weeks match when his team came back from two nil down to steal a victory, and first place in the WLP, against Ashburton.

The win cements Box Hill's position at the top of the league and in a warning to the WPL teams looking to challenge them in the finals, Reigosa said the Ashburton game made him realise they had not yet reach their potential this season.

One of the teams that will be looking for a finals berth is Heidleberg who grabbed a top five spot from Eltham North following their 2-0 win at home.

The win is Heidleberg's fourth in so many weeks but they will be tested next week, when they take on fourth placed, Preston, who didn't play this week.

Further down the table Keilor Park defeated the Casey Comets 3-2 which saw Keilor hold on for their third win of the season after the Comets clawed their way back into the game from three nil down.

Kerri Little, in her first game back from injury, scored for Keilor with Lauren Farrugia and Tijen Hussein also getting one each.

The Comet's come back was engineered by Linda Restrepo and the quick youngster Lisa Cloke who got a goal each but it wasn't enough to get them over the line.

Keilor Park coach, Jose Paz, was pleased at finally getting another win on the board and said his team had a tough battle ahead this week as Keilor plays three games in five days due to some unusual FFV scheduling.

Keilor will play a catch up game against Gipsland on Wednesday night then play their regular round 17 match against Eltham the following Friday.

As the league enters it last six rounds the WPL was awash with rumours of a restructure next year which may see four teams dropped out of the top league. While nothing official has come from the FFV, the talk is rightly causing some concern among teams languishing at the bottom of the table.

By Emma Field

Photos by John Punshon

Heidelberg's Lucy Balta (centre) celebrates her goal.

WPL ROUND 16 RESULTS

Bendigo Vipers 0 Ashburton 2 (R Mortellaro P Bernini), **South Melbourne 0 Box Hill Inter 5** (A Lawless J Humble 2 L Bisby Own Goal), **Keilor Park 3** (L Farrugia K Little T Hussein) **Casey Comets 2** (L Restrepo L Cloke), **Heidelberg Utd 2** (L Balta M Archer) **Eltham North 0**

WPL STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Box Hill Inter	16	13	2	1	45	11	41
Ashburton	16	11	4	1	41	15	37
Sandringham	15	9	4	2	22	11	31
Preston Lions	14	9	0	5	18	12	27
Heidelberg Utd	15	8	1	6	41	21	25
Eltham North	16	7	2	7	39	24	23
Bendigo Vipers	15	4	6	5	12	20	18
Casey Comets	16	4	3	9	22	30	15
Keilor Park	15	3	4	8	27	36	13
South Melbourne	15	3	2	10	21	36	11
GSL	12	2	1	9	15	44	7
Eastern Lions	11	0	1	10	4	47	1

UPCOMING FIXTURES

Eltham North v Keilor Park
WSC Anderson Park
Fri 18 Jul KO 8:30PM

Box Hill Inter v Bendigo Vipers
Wembley Park
Sat 19 Jul KO 3:00PM

Sandringham v GSL
Kingston Heath Soccer Complex
Sat 19 Jul KO 3:00PM

Casey Comets v South Melbourne
Comets Stadium
Sun 20 Jul KO 1:00PM

Preston Lions v Heidelberg Utd
BT Connor Reserve
Sun 20 Jul KO 1:00PM

Ashburton v Bye*

***Eastern Lions has withdrawn from the WPL.**

WPL RESERVES RESULTS

Bendigo Vipers 1 Ashburton 4, South Melbourne 0 Box Hill Inter 5, Keilor Park 0 Casey Comets 0

WPL RESERVES STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Ashburton	16	16	0	0	78	9	48
Box Hill Inter	16	14	1	1	57	12	43
Sandringham	15	10	1	4	62	20	31
Keilor Park	15	7	3	5	40	23	24
Heidelberg Utd	13	7	3	3	26	18	24
Bendigo Vipers	15	6	1	8	28	31	19
Casey Comets	16	5	2	9	36	40	17
Preston Lions	14	3	4	7	22	33	13
Eltham North	15	2	4	9	13	43	10
South Melbourne	14	3	1	10	22	58	10
GSL	12	1	3	8	11	32	6
Eastern Lions	11	0	1	10	6	82	1

SPANISH SUPREMACY

La Seleccion Plays the Perfect Tournament

Fernando Torres ends Spain's pain and on a personal note completes the remarkable hat trick of scoring the only goal in a U16, U19 and Senior European Championship Final

Although much of the hype surrounding the European Championships has diminished over the past couple of weeks, Spain will be celebrating the end of 44 years of heartbreak for many years to come.

After their emphatic triumph in Austria and Switzerland added only a second European Championship to the national side's trophy cabinet and first since 1964, Spanish fans across the country revelled in wild celebrations on return of their national heroes.

The party commenced within the Ernst Happel Stadion in Vienna, Austria, where the Spanish players celebrated in the change rooms, spraying champagne on team-mates and the King of Spain, Juan Carlos, who had come to congratulate his nation's stars after their triumph over Germany.

In Spain, millions of Spanish supporters spilled out onto the streets in a sea of red and yellow, to celebrate a rare accomplishment in their country's cursed history.

Tens of thousands continued the celebrations into the next day, missing their work commitments to party along to the chants of 'ESPANA! ESPANA!', 'OLE, OLE, OLE' and 'CAMPEONES, CAMPEONES.'

Wrapped in Spanish Flags or dressed as their nation's icon, the bullfighter, revellers set off fireworks and danced upon car rooftops to the beeping of car horns.

The Plaza de Colon in the Spanish capital of Madrid was the place to be the next day after the Final triumph, as the nation's stars returned from Vienna holding the silver cup aloft on touchdown.

An open top bus tour, a special tribute from the Spanish Air Force and numerous speeches saw the triumphant Spanish side cheered on by huge crowds, as the Henri Delaunay trophy touched down in Madrid.

As the young and talented side appeared wearily and exhausted from the aircraft after a long night of celebration, it was clearly apparent that the side was far from their physical peak that they were in at the start of the tournament three weeks earlier.

Placed in Group D and seeded 12th in the competition, Spain made short work of their group opponents on their way to lifting the trophy.

Luis Aragones' side commenced the tournament in sensational style, with an emphatic 4-1 victory over Guus Hiddink's Russia, with Golden Boot winner David Villa netting a fantastic hat-trick.

Sweden and Greece provided little resistance for the Spanish, with the side collecting maximum points in Group D with two consecutive 2-1 victories against their group opponents.

Playing attacking, free-flowing, one-touch football, Spain were soon making an attractive surge towards the final.

But in the quarter-finals they faced their toughest test; reigning World Cup holders Italy, a side which they had not won against in competitive match since 1920.

But Italy had had a woeful group-stage, and despite holding Spain to a dull 0-0 via highly defensive tactics after extra time, the momentum was with Luis Aragones' side heading into the penalty shoot-out.

By far the better team on the day, Spain's goalkeeper Iker Casillas was the shoot-out hero, saving two penalties and allowing Arsenal midfielder Cesc Fabregas to seal a 4-2 victory with the final spot kick.

The victory not only broke Spain's incredible 88-year drought against the Italians, but it also signalled the end of a penalty shoot-out losing streak on the 22 June, with previous losses against Belgium in the 1986 World Cup, England in Euro 1996 and against South Korea in the 2002 World Cup, all on the same date.

With only one match away from the final, Spain was drawn in the semi-finals with giant-killers Russia, who had dispatched of tournament favourite the Netherlands in the quarters.

But as they had done so in the opening match of the tournament, Luis Aragones' side were ruthless against the Russians, with a fine display by substitute Cesc Fabregas setting up an emphatic 3-0 victory against the European underdogs.

The victory set up an intriguing final between the impressive Spain and three-time winners Germany, who had claimed the scalps of Portugal and Turkey on their way to another final appearance.

Perennial underachievers, the Spanish side was determined not to fail once more at the final hurdle, and completely outclassed the Germans despite missing top scorer Villa through injury.

The 1-0 score line, courtesy of a neat Fernando Torres finish in the 33rd minute, did not do the Spanish side justice, and the score line could easily have been 3-0.

With a total of 12 goals in the tournament, Spain was the top scoring nation, and striker David Villa finished as top goal-scorer with four goals.

Midfielder Xavi Hernadez was awarded Player of the Tournament, due to his reliability and consistency in the middle of the park.

No less than nine Spanish players were chosen in the UEFA Euro 2008 Team of the Tournament, illustrating the side's dominance and ability throughout the three week competition.

Spain also ended the tournament as the only unbeaten side to win since Germany in 1996, and the first side since France in 1984 to win all their group matches and go on to win the tournament.

Spain were further rewarded for their impressive performance at Euro 2008, with FIFA awarding them first place on the FIFA World Rankings two days after their Euro triumph, for the first time in the nation's history.

Unlike in Euro 2004, where ultra defensive Greece managed to win via negative tactics, Euro 2008 produced a worthy winner in Spain, a true footballing side which displayed sensational ability, positive attacking football and most importantly entertaining skill.

> "it also signalled the end of a penalty shoot-out losing streak on the 22 June, with previous losses against Belgium in the 1986 World Cup, England in Euro 1996 and against South Korea in the 2002 World Cup, all on the same date."

By Julius Ross

Photos by UEFA

UEFA Euro 2008 Final

Germany 0 – 1 Spain
Scorer: Torres 33'
Ernst Happel Stadion, Vienna
Attendance: 51,428
Referee: Roberto Rosetti (Italy)
29 June 2008

Golden Boot

4 goals
David Villa (Spain)

3 goals
Lukas Podolski (Germany)
Roman Pavlyuchenko (Russia)
Hakan Yakin (Turkey)
Semih Şentürk (Turkey)

2 goals
Ivan Klasnić (Croatia)
Michael Ballack (Germany)
Bastian Schweinsteiger (Germany)
Miroslav Klose (Germany)
Ruud van Nistelrooy (Holland)
Robin van Persie (Holland)
Wesley Sneijder (Holland)
Andrei Arshavin (Russia)
Dani Güiza (Spain)
Fernando Torres (Spain)
Zlatan Ibrahimović (Sweden)
Arda Turan (Turkey)

UEFA Team of the Tournament

Goalkeepers: Gianluigi Buffon (Italy), Iker Casillas (Spain), Edwin van der Sar (Holland)

Defenders: José Bosingwa (Portugal), Philipp Lahm (Germany), Carlos Marchena (Spain), Pepe (Portugal), Carles Puyol (Spain), Yuri Zhirkov (Russia)

Midfielders: Hamit Altıntop (Turkey), Cesc Fàbregas (Spain), Michael Ballack (Germany), Andrés Iniesta (Spain), Luka Modrić (Croatia), Lukas Podolski (Germany), Marcos Senna (Spain), Xavi (Spain), Wesley Sneijder (Holland), Konstantin Zyryanov (Russia)

Forwards: Andrei Arshavin (Russia), Roman Pavlyuchenko (Russia), Fernando Torres (Spain), David Villa (Spain)

UEFA Player of the Tournament

Xavi (Spain)

Prize money

Total: €184 million
Prize for participating: €7.5 million
Extra payment based on teams performances:
Winner: €7.5 million
Runner-up: €4.5 million
Semi-finals: €3 million
Quarter-finals: €2 million
Group stage (per match):
Win: €1 million
Draw: €500,000

Spain, as winners of the tournament and winners of all three of their group stage matches, received a total prize of €23 million, the maximum possible prize money. Greece on the other hand, being the only team to lose all three of their group matches, were the only team to receive nothing more than the €7.5 million participation prize.

MacKenzie At Large

An Occasional Offering from Craig MacKenzie

NATIVES RESTLESS

We'll huff and we'll puff and ...

THE Foxtel Cup competition is abuzz with rumours that many clubs are secretly (well, obviously not so secretly) plotting a breakaway league, an administrative coup, or court action with Football Federation Victoria in their sights.

I find the idea of a breakaway competition laughable given that a similar threat was made by the old National Soccer League in the late 1970s when that body took aim fairly and squarely at the then Australian Soccer Federation.

After much huffing and puffing the NSL threat ran out of steam when the league discovered that every player that participated in a breakaway competition faced a life ban from FIFA.

There's no doubt though that quite a few Foxtel Cup clubs and FFV are unhappy bedfellows and one of the causes of discontent appears yet again to be the four down relegation scenario that confronts this season's competition.

As each week goes by the rumours get stronger. We could be in for some interesting times as the regular season draws to a close.

Langy loses star duo

LANGWARRIN has lost two of its star players with captain Chris Quinn trialling in Ireland's Eircom League while Scottish import Barry Tulloch returned to his homeland last Wednesday.

Quinn holds dual Australian and Irish citizenship and his wife, a speech pathologist, has taken up a posting in Galway. While Quinn has arranged trials with the local club, Dublin-based powerhouse Bohemian also has shown interest in the 26-year-old defender with coach Pat Fenlon due to make a decision shortly on whether to offer him a trial.

Langwarrin captain Chris Quinn is trialling in Ireland. Photo: Darryl Kennedy

Langwarrin import Barry Tulloch has returned to Scotland. Photo: Darryl Kennedy

Athlone Town's media and promotions manager Chris Enright has contacted Quinn and passed on his details to the football department. A sell-out crowd will attend Athlone Town's glamour home friendly against Roy Keane's Sunderland on Thursday, 7 August.

Tulloch made a huge impact when he arrived here late last season and a number of Premier League clubs watched him closely but he has battled to overcome a knee injury recently and decided to return to Scotland to undergo surgery.

The 24-year-old former Clyde, Motherwell and Cowdenbeath winger has also played with Campsie Black Watch, Cumbernauld and Rob Roy and along with Quinn will be sorely missed by the Lawton Park outfit.

Vale Henry Surma

ONE of Melbourne Hungaria's legends, goalkeeper Henry Surma, died on Friday 4 July at the age of 62 after a long illness.

Surma was between the posts in Melbourne Hungaria's 1967 Australian Cup triumph (the same year the club clinched the Victorian State League championship) and also played for Victoria. His career started at Aspendale juniors before he joined Frankston City then finally Melbourne Hungaria.

Surma was part of the Victorian squad that faced Manchester United at Olympic Park and the famous Old Trafford outfit offered him a contract but Surma's father objected to the move and it fell through.

Surma's last main public appearance was at last year's 50th anniversary celebrations for Melbourne Hungaria.

Green light for grand plans

DIVISION One outfit Bentleigh Greens continue to strengthen off the field with work already started on a new stand in the outer area of the Greek-backed club's Kingston Heath Soccer Complex.

By the end of this month the club also hopes to have its main pitch floodlit to the tune of a staggering $300,000 and will apply to Football Federation Victoria to play games there this season under lights.

The exorbitant cost of floodlighting was forced upon the club and local council due to federal aviation requirements. The club's complex is next to Moorabbin Airport and special fittings were required including a detailed lighting plan.

The stand in the outer is part of an $85,000 project that involved enlargement of the referees' room, kitchen, and installation of a coolroom.

Club chairman Ray Georgiou was upbeat about the development. "We've co-operated closely with local government. We engaged in a refinancing program and worked together with the council which has supported us in developing the complex," said Georgiou.

"We're ahead of schedule in repaying our (council) debt and I think that the council would perceive us as being a good tenant."

Gee Dad, get it right

MY mate Michael Mitten, who once fashioned a part-time journalistic career under the pseudonym Mick O'Brien, found himself embroiled in one of the curses of the modern age – political correctness – when watching his daughter Caitlin playing for Sandringham City's under-14 girls team the other week.

Michael took it upon himself to go behind the goals and help organise the defence as the opposition had a player who was not vertically challenged wreaking havoc from set pieces.

After the match his daughter informed him that he should not be calling out to their defenders to "pick up the big one". She explained that he should instead use the term "tall one" as big carries connotations of largeness of girth.

When last seen downing a pint of Guinness in the South Oakleigh Club, Michael was overheard practising for Sandy's next game by calling out "pick up the tall and not morbidly obese one!"

Man U, Liverpool and ... Fort William!

NOW this one is definitely from the believe-it-or-not category. Fort William Football Club could become only the third American-owned football club in Britain under plans to make the Scottish Highland League's worst team stars of a reality-based US TV series.

American media millionaire Paul MacDonald, whose ancestors emigrated from Lochaber in the 1850s, is looking to bring over up to 10 footballers from the US next year to join the Claggan Park squad, whose fortunes would be followed by soccer-mad US fans on a new website 'AmericasTeam.com'.

The club has already agreed a one-year £8000 kit sponsorship deal with MacDonald's company, pmac Tonight Entertainment, with an option to extend to three years. Delivery of Nike home and away strips and tracksuits, complete with the AmericasTeam FC logo, is expected this week.

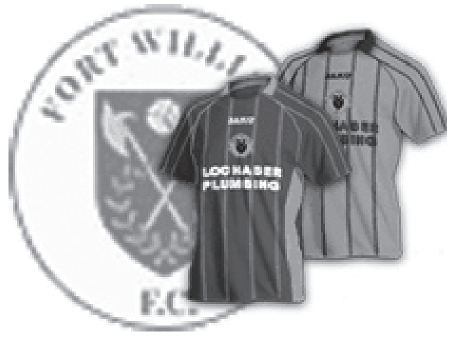
Pmac Tonight Entertainment is "in the process" of developing the website to generate additional revenue for the club and is "in negotiations for a potential reality-based television series based upon the players".

Fort William FC secretary John Treasurer (that's real folks, the secretary is a Treasurer) said: "If this is genuine there will be only three teams in the UK that have American owners – Manchester United, Liverpool and Fort William. But we need to keep a reasonable lid on the thing. We're eagerly anticipating the arrival of the new kit. In general the club board is in support of the partnership going forward. If it's true it's the most amazing thing that's happened here, but if it's a lot of baloney the worst thing that can happen is that we will have the strips."

MacDonald was in Fort William in March to brief club officials and is planning a return visit. "The boy definitely knows his stuff," said Treasurer. "He's really knowledgeable about Scottish football and the Highland League. He's indicated the site will go live in time for the team's first match of the new season. The end result for me is the team wearing their new strips. When that happens, I'll be happy. After that we'll see."

Spokesperson for pmac Entertainment, Cincinnati-based Jennifer Wolfe, said: "The website will follow the players and the club on their journey from worst to first. We hope to be able to release a more formal statement soon."

This won't be the first time that Fort William has received a new strip from a benefactor. Many moons ago it's alleged that a winger who went on to star with South Melbourne Hellas nicked an entire set of youth team strips from Aberdeen and 'donated' them to his former club.



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ROUND FIFTEEN

LANGY SEES RED AGAINST GEORGIES, THUNDER PEALING

The Southern Stars have continued their resurgence from a mid-season slump to win their third consecutive match, this time 4-3 over local rivals Springvale White Eagles at Ross Reserve on Saturday afternoon. Sercan Doganay and Thierry Boi got the Stars off to a dream start with two goals in the opening half, before Eagles' Grujo Mrdic and Igor Stojanac put the teams back on level pegging at half time. Mrdic added his second goal for Springvale in the second half, but it was not enough as Doganay also scored his second, before Colin Quirk became the hero for the home side, netting the winner in the dying stages. The win sees the Southern Stars continue to reclaim lost ground, climbing to equal third place, while the Eagles fall to eighth.

Dandenong have atoned for their shock draw against the last placed Kingston City in the two sides' previous encounter this season with a 3-1 victory at George Andrews Reserve on Saturday night. Goals either side of half time for the Thunder to Alfonso Opazo and a first half goal to Louis Brain blew the game apart after an early goal to City's Ilya Grin gave the visitors hope of an upset. Dandenong remain in second place within touching distance of ladder-leaders Sunshine after extending their unbeaten streak to ten games now, Kingston on the other hand; stay anchored to the foot of the table.

The was high drama at Lawton Park Reserve where the Georgies maintained their four-point buffer with a 3-1 defeat of Langwarrin on Saturday. Georgies coach Andrew O'Dell was sent off the bench in the first half and Langwarrin had 3 players sent off in the second half after some interesting refereeing.

Though the victory did not come without a scare, as both teams headed into the break on level pegging after goals to Sunshine's Peter Koutsoupias and Langwarrin's Caleb Nicholes; his sixth goal of the season. However, after the break the Georgies lifted their standard and were rewarded with two goals; one to Anthony Bowsley and a second to Koutsoupias, to take all three points.

Langwarrin stay in tenth place, missing an opportunity to jump into ninth after Westgate's loss.

Sunshine Georgies' coach Andy O'Dell on the wrong side of the fence on Saturday against Langwarrin. Photo: Darryl Kennedy

Paul Mahagiar (SWE) flies over the tackle by Murat Caliskan (Southern Stars), but loses the ball in the process. Photo: John Punshon

The referee was on hand to prevent a flare-up as the players left the pitch at half-time in the Southern Stars v Springvale White Eagles match. Photo: John Punshon

An early own goal against St Albans at Ardeer Reserve on Saturday should have been the perfect excuse for Westgate to go on to win their fourth game of the year, though two goals soon after half time to Saints' Goran Jozeljic and Steven Jovanovski handed the lead straight back to the visitors. However, for reasons which are as yet unknown officially, the match was abandoned at Westgate's discretion with the score at 2-1 in St Albans favour, though no points have been awarded to either side.

There were no such dramas at Keilor Park Reserve though, with the Bentleigh Greens running out to a convincing 3-0 win over Keilor Park on Saturday. Despite being quite evenly matched in the early stages, Bentleigh took a single-goal lead into half time thanks to a Marcelo Pena-goal. After the break, the Greens extended their lead twice after goals to Andrew Strapelias and Sam De Vito, ensuring that the visitors kept in touch with the top two.

By Jeremy O'Neill

Photo by Darryl Kennedy

SL1 ROUND RESULTS

Southern Stars 4 (T Boi S Doganay 2 CF Quirk) **Springvale White Eagles 3** (G Mrdic 2 I Stojanac), **Westgate 1** (Own Goal) **St Albans Saints 2** (S Jovanovski G Jozeljic), **Langwarrin 1** (C Nicholes) **Sunshine Georgies 3** (A Bowsley P Koutsoupias 2), **Keilor Park 0 Bentleigh Greens 3** (M Pena A Strapelias S De Vito), **Dandenong Thunder 3** (L Brain A Opazo 2) **Kingston City 1** (I Grin)

SL1 STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sunshine Georgies	15	11	2	2	28	10	35
Dandenong Thunder	15	9	4	2	34	14	31
Bentleigh Greens	15	7	5	3	28	20	26
Southern Stars	15	8	2	5	25	24	26
Bulleen Royals	14	6	5	3	30	18	23
FC Clifton Hill	14	5	3	6	18	27	18
St Albans Saints	14	5	2	7	22	23	17
Springvale White Eagles	15	4	5	6	18	22	17
Westgate	14	3	6	5	19	21	15
Langwarrin	15	3	4	8	13	19	13
Keilor Park	15	3	3	9	12	30	12
Kingston City	15	3	1	11	14	33	10

TOP SCORERS

Becvinovski (Royals) matches 6 - goals 8, **Davidson** (Thunder) 5 - 8, **Doganay** (Sth Stars) 5 - 8, **Opazo** (Thunder) 6 - 8, **Loncaric** (Saints) 7 - 7, **Miles** (Royals) 4 - 7.

NEXT ROUND

Kingston City v Springvale WE
The Grange Reserve
Fri 18 Jul KO 8:30PM

FC Clifton Hill v Keilor Park
Kevin Bartlett Reserve
Sat 19 Jul KO 3:00PM

Sunshine Georgies v Westgate
Chaplin Reserve
Sat 19 Jul KO 3:00PM

Dandenong Thunder v Bulleen Royals
George Andrews Reserve
Sat 19 Jul KO 7:00PM

Bentleigh Greens v Langwarrin
Kingston Heath Soccer Complex
Sun 20 Jul KO 3:00PM

St Albans Saints v Southern Stars
Churchill Reserve
Sun 20 Jul KO 3:00PM

RESERVES RESULTS

Southern Stars 3 Springvale White Eagles 3, Westgate 0 St Albans Saints 4, Langwarrin 2 Sunshine Georgies 1, Keilor Park 1 (A Chawk) Bentleigh Greens 3, Dandenong Thunder 6 Kingston

RESERVES STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Langwarrin	15	12	3	0	48	14	39
Bentleigh Greens	15	12	0	3	50	21	36
Bulleen Royals	14	9	2	3	38	15	29
Keilor Park	15	8	4	3	33	23	28
Southern Stars	15	6	5	4	33	29	23
Sunshine Georgies	15	5	6	4	24	23	21
FC Clifton Hill	14	6	2	6	25	28	20
Westgate	15	4	2	9	19	39	14
Dandenong Thunder	15	3	2	10	33	48	11
St Albans Saints	15	2	4	9	23	36	10
Kingston City	15	2	3	10	24	48	9
Springvale White Eagles	15	2	3	10	20	46	9

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CRAIG ELVIN

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS FC

FULL NAME: Craig Elvin
BIRTHPLACE: Scotland
BIRTH DATE: 14/01/1983
HEIGHT: 179 cm
WEIGHT: 74 kg
MARRIED: Engaged
CAR: BMW 323 Coupe
OCCUPATION OUTSIDE OF FOOTBALL: Account Manager
NICKNAME: None
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Frankston Pines
REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS: None
CHILDHOOD FOOTBALL HERO: David Beckham/Roy Keane
FAVOURITE O/S PLAYER: Cristiano Ronaldo
FAVOURITE FOXTEL CUP PLAYER: Ivan Franjic - very exciting / Steve Iosifidis - makes it look easy
FAVOURITE FORMER SOCCEROO: Mark Viduka
FAVOURITE CURRENT SOCCEROO: Tim Cahill
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A PLAYER: Debut for Knights vs Preston
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A FAN: Australia vs Qatar - Seeing the game getting the support it deserves
MOST MEMORABLE GOAL YOU'VE SCORED: On Debut for Knights vs Preston
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing final against Preston last year
WORST INJURY: Medial
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Zoran Petrevski
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: BT Conner
SUPERSTITIONS: Always get car washed on game day
TYPICAL MATCH DAY MEAL: Pasta/ Steak
WHAT ARE YOUR STRENGTHS: In the air
WHAT ARE YOUR WEAKNESSES: Huge expectations
FAVOURITE TEAM WHEN GROWING UP: Manchester United
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: All sports
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTSPERSON: Muhammad Ali
FAVOURITE FOODS: Pasta/KFC
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Denzel Washington
HOBBIES: Spending money - if that's a hobby
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Bora Bora
FAVOURITE NIGHTSPOT: Anywhere with the boys
IDEAL DATE: Dinner & drinks with fiance
FAVOURITE TV SHOWS: Law & Order, The Simpsons
FAVOURITE MUSIC: R&B
FAVOURITE FILM: Remember the Titans
LAST SOCCER SHIRT YOU BOUGHT: Manchester United
FUNNIEST RUMOUR YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT YOURSELF: Nothing of note
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Stan Webster
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Injuries
FOOTBALL AMBITION: Lead Knights to a title
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? : Richard Branson
YOUR TIP FOR THIS YEAR'S FOXTEL CUP: Melbourne Knights

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Photo by John Punshon

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GREEN GULLY
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GULLY KEEPS THE WOOD OVER SOUTH

South's Season At Crossroads

Green Gully has continued its recent home dominance over South Melbourne, defeating the Blues 1-0 thanks to a Joel Nikolic goal on Saturday.

The game promised to be a tough and dour affair from the outset, with the cold and extremely windy conditions on show at Green Gully Reserve. In the opening half, Gully kicked with the aid of the gale force wind and nearly had the opener in the 7th minute, when a long ball by skipper Dean Fak floated over the South defence and into the path of Nikolic. With only goalkeeper Tommi Tomich to beat, Nikolic misjudged the pace of the ball, allowing for the ball to go out for a goal kick. Nikolic was proving to be a headache for South and in the 17th minute he latched onto a sublime Matthew Sanders ball from the right hand flank and tried to back-heel the ball past Tomich. Thankfully for the South defence, Tomich was able to get down low enough to make a superb close range save.

South responded with an attack of their own. Nathan Caldwell was the recipient of a long ball from Shane Nunes. Caldwell controlled the ball with his chest and then opted to hit an ambitious volley from well outside the area and against the gusty wind. The shot was on target however was brilliantly saved by Steven Tilovski, who acrobatically moved to his left hand side and turned the ball away for a corner.

Caldwell once again was on hand to create another scoring chance for the Blues by playing an exemplary through-ball past the stagnant Green Gully defence and into the path of the speedy Goran Zoric. The hard-working midfielder then launched a low shot onto the target before being once again denied by Tilovski, who parried the ball back into the path of Zoric. From the rebound, Zoric then played a square ball to his left, which found the open De Nittis. With only Tilovski to beat, De Nittis disappointingly hit a weak left-footed shot wide of the target and out for goal kick.

Green Gully found themselves in front just before the break. A dangerous cross from down the right hand flank by Sanders was poorly dealt with by Tomich and the South defence, allowing for Nikolic to muscle his way into the area and tap the ball into the back of an unguarded net.

With South's season hanging by a thread at half time, the away side came out with all guns blazing in the second half, missing early chances through both Caldwell and Futsalroo Fernando De Moraes. In the 52nd minute, some committed Gully defending once again thwarted a South attacking foray, when a superb run by Zoric culminated in a ball being played to Rama Tavsancioglu in space. The Blues captain hit a beautiful shot past Tilovski, only for the ball to be cleared off the goal line at the last minute to keep the score at 1-0.

Gully's Kole Delev pays some close attention to South's Goran Zoric

South continued to pile on the pressure and controversially had a goal disallowed minutes later, when substitute Hamlet Armenian was adjudged to have headed the ball into the back of the net from an offside position. This further infuriated the away side and their supporters. With time running out, South had the final chance of the game in the 82nd minute. A sublime lobbed pass over Fak's shoulder by Tavsancioglu released Caldwell inside the area. After a great first touch, Caldwell then hit a well-struck volley onto the target, however Tilovski once again stayed low and kept the ball out with a fine save.

The win consolidates Green Gully's position in the top two, whilst South now sit 5 points outside of the top six. Gully's next match is a trip to Jack Edwards Reserve next Sunday to face the Oakleigh Cannons. On the same day South faces another difficult assignment, this time at home to the Melbourne Knights in a derby match that the Blues simply must win in order to have any chance of reaching the finals this season. To put the team under further pressure, another loss at Bob Jane Stadium this season will confirm South's worst home record in a season at the stadium since moving there in the 1995/96 NSL season. Currently South has lost at Bob Jane Stadium on five occasions this season, equaling the current record (the 1996/97 NSL season and the 2007 Foxtel Cup season). Kick-off for the match against the Knights is at 3pm next Sunday.

Gully's Jeff Fleming gets the taste of a South Melbourne sandwich led by Gianni De Nittis

Match Details:

Green Gully
Steven Tilovski, Steven Burton, Dean Fak, Jeffrey Fleming, Kole Delev, Koce Delev (Campbell Banks), Matthew Sanders (John Adem), Manny Muscat, Ryan Ollerton, Andy Vargas (Kristijan Ivesic), Joel Nikolic
South Melbourne
Tommi Tomich, Shane Nunes, Steven O'Dor, Scott MacNicol, Gianni De Nittis (Hamlet Armenian), Goran Zoric (Sebastian Petrovich), Rama Tavsancioglu, Fernando De Moraes, Nathan Caldwell, Sam Poutakidis, Robert Wynne

Man of the match:
Nathan Caldwell

Crowd: 600
Venue: Green Gully Reserve

By George Kouroumalis

Photos by Daniel Flis

Green Gully SOCCER CLUB
The Green Gully Soccer Show
10.30am Every Saturday on C31

RICHMOND
EAGLES

1 - 1

WHITTLESEA
ZEBRAS

TEMPERS REACH BOILING POINT

McCluskey and Chatz Dismissed By Ref

Richmond hosted Whittlesea on a cold but dry Friday night, with Finals football still a possibility for both clubs.

The Zebras, rejuvenated under rookie coach Ivan Jolic, came into the game having recorded the first win of any team against the A.I.S. in Canberra this season on the back of a Jerry Karpeh double. The Eagles had the previous week off, their last two games being defeats at the hands of Altona Magic and Western Suburbs.

Jimmy Latinopoulos had an early chance for Richmond in the third minute when a cross from the right was cleared to him outside the area and he struck a volley from thirty yards which wasn't too far wide. Stuart Webster claimed Goran Talevski's cross from near the right corner flag four minutes later, as the scrappy game began to see some chances created. A little flick from Karpeh sent Ryan O'Hare away on the left side of the area, his shot blocked for a corner which Webster again claimed commandingly.

In the eleventh minute Michael Catalano won the ball for Richmond in the right corner, cutting back and crossing for Pablo Cardozo, who headed wide from ten yards. The Eagles had the ball in the back of the net in the twenty-first minute, Richie Cardozo's free-kick being met by the head of Jesse Krncevic in the middle of a crowded penalty area, but the goal was disallowed for offside. They went close again four minutes later, when Kenny Gerohristodoulou spilled a tame cross from Latinpoulos straight to Pablo Cardozo. Cardozo rounded the keeper but John Angelovski managed to get back and clear the shot from an angle off the line.

Dimitri Tsiaras made a strong run forward for Richmond in the thirty-second minute, exchanging passes with Latinopoulos and Catalano before going down when challenged in the area. The Zebras then attacked and won a corner, Talevski's ball being headed wide by Daniel Piorkowski.

In the forty-second minute a long goal kick from Gerohristodoulou gained the Zebras a throw-in. The ball was laid back to the thrower, Angelovski who crossed from the left flank. Webster hesitated in coming out for the ball, which found Talevski at the far post who headed it home from eight yards. The Zebras would maintain their 1-0 lead to the half-time break which followed shortly after.

The second half began with referee Lewis Guiseffi raising the ire of the Richmond players and bench when failing to play advantage after Catalano poked the ball to an overlapping Latinopoulos as he was fouled in the first minute of the resumption. Latinopoulos was on the edge of the area, unchallenged and had bodies in the box to send a pass to. Five minutes later the referee was again the centre of attention. Stuart McCluskey put in a heavy challenge on Connor Molan, three yards from the halfway line on the Freeway side of the ground. The referee produced a yellow card. McCluskey, being pushed by Talevski, stated that Molan was a cheat of some description which saw the referee pull out his red card. In the protests that followed Zoran Cvetkovski and Pablo Cardozo were also booked when questioning the referee, with Molan regaining his feet and not requiring any treatment off the pitch.

The whistle blew for a free-kick in the middle of the park six minutes later, with neither side knowing what or who it was for, and both teams leaving it for the other until Guiseffi signalled Whittlesea's way. Marco Kuck sent a ball through for Pablo Cardozo, which he held up before setting off on a run which got him into the box before he went down under a tackle.

Whittlesea's Jerry Karpeh tangles with Richmond's Nick Kalambokis

Whittlesea's Goran Talevski stretches to maintain posession against Dimi Tsiaras

Whittlesea were enjoying the greater possession, but Richmond were showing more penetration going forward. A great ball from Talevski sent O'Hare free on the right in the penalty area and a desperate lunge from Tsiaras saw the shot blocked just as it appeared Webster may have been left exposed in the sixty-third minute. Five minutes later the Zebras went even closer, a speculative strike from Karpeh near the touchline on the Clubroom side from thirty-five yards flying over Webster and bouncing off the far post.

A counter attack in the seventy-third minute saw the Zebras almost have the Eagles at their mercy, but the four on two numerical advantage was undone by the offside trap catching Anthony Colosimo as he burst forward. Pablo Cardozo shot over the goal from the edge of the area after Richie Cardozo had switched the ball over to him from the right. A shot from Cvetkovski saw Gerohristodoulou regain the ball after momentarily losing it.

With some time-wasting from Gerohristodoulou going unchecked, the Richmond bench once again began venting their anger on the referee. When the whistle was blown after Catalano found Krncevic from right on the touchline, tensions boiled over and coach Michael Chatzitrifonos was dismissed from the bench.

Gerohristodoulou punched away a cross from Shane Rexhepi from just above Krncevic's head with ten minutes remaining. Substitute Mark Pistininzi was booked for bringing down Tsiaras as he was about to break into the box. Pablo Cardozo's free-kick was blocked by the wall, as was his follow-up strike.

Richmond continued to threaten a goal, but it did not arrive until the third minute of stoppage time. Pablo Cardozo earned a corner, taking it himself and putting the ball into the middle of the penalty area. After a group vied for the ball in the air, it fell to the feet of Kuck who slammed it low through the crowded area and into the net from twelve yards out. The dramatic finish left both sides sharing the points at the end of a heated contest.

Richmond: S.Webster, J.Latinopoulos (A.Viola 76'), S.Rexhepi (N.Kalambokis 86'), S.McCluskey, D.Tsiaras, J.Krncevic, R.Cardozo, P.Cardozo, M.Catalano, Z.Cevtkovski, M.Kuck.

Goal: Kuck 93'

Yellow Cards: Latinopoulos 48' McCluskey 52' P.Cardozo 52' Cvetkovski 52' Tsiaras 88'

Red Card: McCluskey 52'

Whittlesea: K.Gerohristodoulou, D.Piorkowski, J.Angelovski, C.Molan, R.Antoniadis, A.Colosimo (M.Pistininzi 86'), G.Lombardo, M.Vazzocchi, J.Karpeh, R.O'Hare, G.Talevski (Junior De Melo 92').

Goal: Talevski 42'

Yellow Cards: Colosimo 77' Pistininzi 82'

Red Card: Angelovski 93'

Man of the Match:
Dimitri Tsiaras (Richmond)

Venue: Kevin Bartlett Reserve
Crowd: 150

By Mark Boric

Photos by Peter Kakalias

STATE & PROVISIONAL LEAGUES

ROUND FIFTEEN

NORTH WEST 2

Seniors

Thomastown Devils 3 (O Ayache L Santilli 2) Cairnlea 0, Moreland City 1 (R Marcen) Altona City 1 (O Kara), Brunswick City 0 Werribee City 1 (M Collins), North Geelong Warriors 5 (A Cervinski A Deak D Dragicevic 3) Ballarat Red Devils 0, Altona East Phoenix 3 (N Ismail B Lojanica F Tijani) Maribyrnong Greens 0, Williamstown 1 (T Grozdanovski) Pascoe Vale 2 (S Tribuzio DA Genovesi)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Pascoe Vale	15	8	7	0	18	6	31
Altona East Phoenix	15	8	5	2	23	9	29
Ballarat Red Devils	15	7	6	2	24	21	27
North Geelong Warriors	15	7	5	3	23	14	26
Werribee City	15	7	4	4	22	15	25
Thomastown Devils	15	7	2	6	31	24	23
Brunswick City	15	6	4	5	18	14	22
Williamstown	15	5	2	8	18	20	17
Cairnlea	15	3	4	8	14	25	13
Altona City	15	3	4	8	13	26	13
Moreland City	15	2	6	7	16	23	12
Maribyrnong Greens	15	1	3	11	11	34	6

Reserves

Thomastown Devils 1 Cairnlea 2, Moreland City 4 Altona City 1, Brunswick City 4 Werribee City 1, North Geelong Warriors 2 Ballarat Red Devils 0, Altona East Phoenix 3 Maribyrnong Greens 0, Williamstown 0 Pascoe Vale 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Moreland City	15	13	1	1	47	18	40
Thomastown Devils	15	9	3	3	38	26	30
Cairnlea	15	9	0	6	37	31	27
Altona City	15	7	2	6	30	25	23
Brunswick City	15	7	2	6	34	30	23
Ballarat Red Devils	15	7	1	7	30	29	22
Williamstown	15	5	5	5	24	28	20
Werribee City	15	5	3	7	33	32	18
Altona East Phoenix	15	5	2	8	21	26	17
North Geelong Warriors	15	5	1	9	27	29	16
Pascoe Vale	15	4	1	10	23	30	13
Maribyrnong Greens	15	3	1	11	10	50	10

NORTH WEST 3

Seniors

Sunbury Utd 1 (V Kalayci) Lalor Utd 1 (T Andreevski), Lalor 1 (G Jolevski) Laverton Park 0, Geelong 1 (J Porter) Sydenham Park 1 (P Dimovski), North Sunshine Eagles 0 Westvale 1 (S Khan), Banyule City 1 (I Tasevski) Yarraville Glory 0, La Trobe University 3 (L Lidestri 2 C Clark) Geelong Rangers 2 (T Hardy Own Goal)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Geelong	15	7	5	3	35	19	26
Sydenham Park	15	6	6	3	29	18	24
Geelong Rangers	15	6	6	3	33	24	24
Lalor	15	7	6	2	22	14	24
Lalor Utd	15	5	6	4	21	19	21
Westvale	14	6	3	5	20	21	21
Banyule City	15	6	3	6	14	18	21
Yarraville Glory	15	5	5	5	17	21	20
North Sunshine Eagles	15	5	3	7	24	27	18
La Trobe University	15	4	5	6	16	21	17
Sunbury Utd	15	3	5	7	18	28	14
Laverton Park	14	1	3	10	13	32	6

Reserves

Sunbury Utd 4 Lalor Utd 0, Lalor 3 Laverton Park 1, Geelong 1 Sydenham Park 1, North Sunshine Eagles 1 Westvale 3, Banyule City 3 Yarraville Glory 1, La Trobe University 4 Geelong Rangers 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
La Trobe University	15	11	3	1	38	11	36
Geelong	15	11	2	2	42	14	35
Sydenham Park	15	8	4	3	32	24	28
Sunbury Utd	15	8	3	4	29	14	27
Lalor	15	7	2	6	35	22	20
Westvale	14	6	2	6	24	31	20
North Sunshine Eagles	15	5	4	6	31	30	19
Banyule City	15	6	1	8	23	32	19
Yarraville Glory	15	5	2	8	21	49	17
Lalor Utd	15	4	1	10	17	27	13
Geelong Rangers	15	2	3	10	22	36	9
Laverton Park	14	2	1	11	15	39	7

PROVI 1 NORTH WEST

Seniors

Avondale Heights 0 Elwood City 2 (K Djelassi IM Jones), Melbourne City 2 (A Milianti H Barrera) Melbourne University Rangers 0, Western Eagles 1 (R Zadworny) Glenroy 2 (A Kranjinovic I Dragicevic), Melbourne Tornado 1 (OA Mora-Huertas) Hume Utd 5 (N Radecki A Kalayci WJ Sismanis 3), South Yarra 4 (S Crossan DS Carter 2 Own Goal) Plenty Valley Lions 1 (C Kirkopoulos), Corio 1 (B Leban) Whittlesea Utd 2 (T Altanhan U Yildiz)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Hume Utd	15	9	5	1	32	13	32
Melbourne Uni Rangers	15	9	0	6	22	22	27
Glenroy	15	8	3	4	29	20	24
Corio	15	7	3	5	14	15	24
Whittlesea Utd	15	6	5	4	24	17	23
Western Eagles	15	6	5	4	27	21	23
Elwood City	15	6	4	5	27	24	22
South Yarra	15	5	4	6	18	15	19
Melbourne City	15	4	5	6	21	24	17
Avondale Heights	14	3	4	7	16	21	13
Plenty Valley Lions	14	3	2	9	17	29	11
Melbourne Tornado	15	2	2	11	18	44	8

Reserves

Avondale Heights 1 Elwood City 2, Melbourne City 0 Melbourne University Rangers 1, Western Eagles 0 Glenroy 1, Melbourne Tornado 0 Hume Utd 6, South Yarra 3 Plenty Valley Lions 1, Corio 2 Whittlesea Utd 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Melbourne Uni Rangers `	15	12	2	1	42	6	38
South Yarra `	15	11	2	2	34	16	35
Avondale Heights	14	7	3	4	30	21	24
Plenty Valley Lions	14	7	1	6	21	20	22
Hume Utd `	15	5	6	4	28	24	21
Glenroy `	15	7	1	7	26	27	19
Elwood City	15	5	2	8	22	28	17
Whittlesea Utd	15	5	2	8	20	28	17
Western Eagles	15	5	1	9	17	25	16
Melbourne City	15	4	3	8	17	24	15
Corio	15	4	3	8	20	36	15
Melbourne Tornado	15	4	0	11	20	42	12

PROVI 2 NORTH WEST

Seniors

Collingwood City 3 (N Yosifidis A Moloney 2) Keon Park 2 (S Kalona A Dimas), Brimbank City 2 (A Sahnic J Avdic) North City Lions 4 (M Hana C Barrientos J Sweeney D Amato), Northern Falcons 1 (D Di Pietro) Hoppers Crossing 1 (ND Slack), Darebin Utd 1 (N Assaad) Essendon Utd 1 (D Loschiavo), Moreland Utd 3 (A Toma A Napolitano J Odisho) Bell Park 2 (E Lawrence D Nelson)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
North City Lions	15	10	3	2	36	18	33
Essendon Utd	14	9	4	1	23	8	31
Moreland Utd	15	8	3	4	29	19	27
Collingwood City	15	8	3	4	23	18	27
West Preston	14	8	2	4	30	23	26
Northern Falcons	14	6	4	4	23	11	22
Hoppers Crossing	14	5	3	6	13	19	18
Keon Park	15	4	4	7	14	18	16
Bell Park	15	4	3	8	13	28	15
Darebin Utd	15	4	2	9	17	25	14
Melton	14	4	1	9	21	27	13
Brimbank City	14	0	2	12	13	41	2

Reserves

Collingwood City 2 Keon Park 2, Brimbank City 0 North City Lions 4, Northern Falcons 2 Hoppers Crossing 3, Darebin Utd 5 Essendon Utd 1, Moreland Utd 4 Bell Park 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
North City Lions	15	11	2	2	32	9	35
Essendon Utd	15	9	4	2	38	17	31
Collingwood City	15	7	5	3	29	18	26
Keon Park	15	5	6	4	24	18	21
Melton	14	6	3	5	21	22	21
Moreland Utd	15	5	4	6	27	36	19
Bell Park	15	6	0	9	30	31	18
Northern Falcons	14	5	3	6	25	26	18
Hoppers Crossing	14	5	2	7	19	24	17
West Preston	13	4	3	6	27	28	15
Brimbank City	14	3	3	8	18	41	12
Darebin Utd	15	3	1	11	22	42	10

PROVI 3 NORTH WEST

Seniors

Watsonia Heights 4 (R Duerden E Santone 2 H Abullahi) Northern Utd 2 (S Dodevski M Umar), Youth Utd 3 (E Kaplan 2 A Demir) Mill Park 0, Dallas Eagles 0 Brimbank 4 (A Soklevski D Stankovski I Vurmeski PV Monarca), Bundoora Utd 1 (D Guadagno) Epping City 2 (A De Propertis C Spaliaras), Brunswick Zebras 1 (D Romagnano) Moreland Wolves 1 (M Denezakis), Ascot Vale 0 Surf Coast 1 (MJ Roberts)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Watsonia Heights	14	10	2	2	42	18	32
Epping City	15	10	2	3	37	13	32
Bundoora Utd	15	9	4	2	28	16	31
Youth Utd	14	9	1	4	29	22	28
Brimbank	15	7	4	4	41	24	25
Brunswick Zebras	15	6	5	4	31	25	23
Surf Coast	15	4	5	6	17	24	17
Mill Park	15	4	4	7	17	32	16
Ascot Vale	15	3	5	7	17	23	14
Moreland Wolves	15	3	3	9	25	41	12
Northern Utd	15	2	4	9	13	37	10
Dallas Eagles	15	1	3	11	10	32	3

Reserves

Watsonia Heights 5 Northern Utd 1, Youth Utd 11 Mill Park 1, Dallas Eagles 1 Brimbank 1, Bundoora Utd 2 Epping City 5, Brunswick Zebras 5 Moreland Wolves 0, Ascot Vale 0 Surf Coast 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Epping City	15	14	1	0	60	7	43
Brimbank	15	11	1	3	37	16	34
Watsonia Heights	14	9	3	2	39	16	30
Brunswick Zebras	15	9	3	3	38	22	30
Youth Utd	14	7	1	6	38	28	22
Surf Coast	15	6	1	8	39	43	19
Ascot Vale	15	5	3	7	27	27	18
Moreland Wolves	15	5	1	9	28	42	16
Northern Utd	15	4	2	9	25	48	14
Bundoora Utd	15	3	3	9	29	40	12
Dallas Eagles	15	3	3	9	23	53	9
Mill Park	15	1	2	12	9	50	5

SOUTH EAST 2

Seniors

Port Melbourne 2 (B Norton O KHRAPKO) South Springvale 1 (C Andronicou), Doncaster Rovers 3 (F Korkaric RH Dias 2) Northcote City 1 (J Theofilopoulos), Waverley Wanderers 1 (S Pipertzis) Stonnington City 4 (C Platt A Gungordu A D'Ortenzio T Williams), Knox City 1 (P Nedza) Chelsea 0, Diamond Valley Utd 2 (A Raynes MJ Dixon) Peninsula Strikers 1 (LA Ventieri), Eastern Lions 1 (RA Markley) Casey Comets 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Northcote City	15	12	1	2	37	14	37
Knox City	15	9	2	4	29	14	29
Doncaster Rovers	15	8	5	2	30	17	29
Stonnington City	15	9	1	5	34	24	28
Chelsea	15	8	2	5	24	21	26
South Springvale	15	6	4	5	22	19	22
Diamond Valley Utd	15	6	3	6	23	30	21
Casey Comets	15	5	4	6	17	20	19
Eastern Lions	15	5	2	8	14	20	17
Port Melbourne	15	4	3	8	16	29	15
Peninsula Strikers	15	1	3	11	13	28	6
Waverley Wanderers	15	1	2	12	11	34	5

Reserves

Port Melbourne 2 South Springvale 1, Doncaster Rovers 4 Northcote City 1, Waverley Wanderers 0 Stonnington City 1, Knox City 1 Chelsea 0, Diamond Valley Utd 2 Peninsula Strikers 3, Eastern Lions 2 Casey Comets 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Knox City	15	10	3	2	30	14	33
Peninsula Strikers	15	10	1	4	31	15	31
Doncaster Rovers	15	9	2	4	32	17	29
Eastern Lions	14	8	1	5	31	22	25
Casey Comets	15	6	4	5	32	28	22
Waverley Wanderers	15	6	4	5	28	25	22
South Springvale	15	6	1	8	17	22	19
Chelsea	15	5	3	7	24	27	18
Northcote City	15	4	5	6	29	31	17
Port Melbourne	15	4	4	7	21	34	16
Stonnington City	15	3	2	10	19	39	11
Diamond Valley Utd	14	2	2	10	13	33	8

SOUTH EAST 3

Seniors

Sandringham City 5 (T Papadopoulos O Harel 3 PA McCluskey) Endeavour Utd 1 (M Kirmaci), Boroondara Eagles 2 (M Gulino 2) Heatherton Utd 3 (J Pekmezovic M Skenderovic M Klehic), Doveton 2 (L Buhic 2) Springvale City 2 (F Bove), Brandon Park 1 (A Hakim) Berwick City 3 (M Davidson OA Mejias N Papadopoulos), Morwell Pegasus 2 (F Albanese CT Bell) Southern Suburbs 1 (H Solomon)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Morwell Pegasus	15	10	3	2	29	16	33
Heatherton Utd	15	8	3	4	31	23	27
Springvale City	15	8	1	6	20	22	25
Southern Suburbs	15	7	2	6	24	23	23
Berwick City	15	5	5	5	26	25	20
Croydon City Arrows	14	5	4	5	21	16	19
Doveton	15	5	4	6	27	32	19
Brandon Park	15	4	5	6	19	19	17
Boroondara Eagles	15	5	2	8	22	23	17
North Caulfield	14	3	8	3	17	22	17
Sandringham City	15	4	4	7	24	25	16
Endeavour Utd	15	2	5	8	18	32	11

Reserves

Sandringham City 3 Endeavour Utd 1, Boroondara Eagles 2 Heatherton Utd 0, Doveton 2 Springvale City 3, Brandon Park 3 Berwick City 3, Morwell Pegasus 4 Southern Suburbs 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sandringham City	15	12	1	2	35	11	37
Boroondara Eagles	15	10	2	3	26	11	32
Berwick City	15	8	4	3	38	24	28
Endeavour Utd	15	8	0	7	26	26	24
Croydon City Arrows	14	7	2	5	26	12	23
North Caulfield	14	7	2	5	30	18	23
Brandon Park	15	7	2	6	31	23	23
Southern Suburbs	15	6	2	7	24	28	20
Doveton	15	5	4	6	18	16	19
Morwell Pegasus	15	4	2	9	22	27	14
Heatherton Utd	15	3	1	11	12	41	10
Springvale City	15	1	0	14	12	63	3

PROVI 1 SOUTH EAST

Seniors

Monash University 0 Nunawading City 3 (CK Stemn Jnr 3), Monbulk 6 (Q Wells 2 R McGee 2 J Desfray Own Goal) Warragul Utd 0, Noble Park Utd 3 (M Durand B Mijatovic MJ Kinski) Scotch Old Boys 2 (A Truong 2), Ashburton 5 (B Jackson JA Clemson 4) Rowville Eagles 2 (S Radu D Rascovici), Old Melburnians 5 (M Pember 3 J Pearce 2) Mooroolbark 1 (K Coe), Fitzroy City 10 (D Jovic JD Moukassa-Mbani N Jones D Mahom D Reilly D Meade 5) White Star Dandenong 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Noble Park Utd	15	11	2	2	50	19	35
Monbulk	15	10	2	3	42	15	32
Nunawading City	15	9	4	2	41	14	31
Fitzroy City	15	8	3	4	51	25	27
Old Melburnians	15	7	4	4	34	21	25
Scotch Old Boys	15	8	1	6	24	22	25
Mooroolbark	15	6	3	6	30	34	21
Ashburton	15	6	0	9	27	35	18
Warragul Utd	15	3	5	7	17	27	14
Monash University	14	3	3	8	18	32	12
Rowville Eagles	14	3	1	10	18	48	10
White Star Dandenong	15	0	2	13	10	70	2

Reserves

Monash University 0 Nunawading City 1, Monbulk 0 Warragul Utd 1, Noble Park Utd 1 Scotch Old Boys 3, Ashburton 3 Rowville Eagles 0, Old Melburnians 2 Mooroolbark 0, Fitzroy City 5 White Star Dandenong 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Fitzroy City	15	8	6	1	39	21	30
Monash University	14	9	2	3	38	16	29
Nunawading City	15	8	4	3	34	16	28
Ashburton	15	8	2	5	26	23	26
Monbulk	15	7	3	5	24	19	24
Old Melburnians	15	7	3	5	25	22	24
Scotch Old Boys	15	6	5	4	29	20	23
Warragul Utd	15	6	4	5	27	29	22
Mooroolbark	15	4	3	8	22	26	15
Noble Park Utd	15	3	2	10	29	37	11
Rowville Eagles	14	3	2	9	16	41	11
White Star Dandenong	15	1	2	12	9	48	5

PROVI 2 SOUTH EAST

Seniors

Keysborough 1 (J Viegas) Caulfield Utd 3 (P Kontogeorgis P Antonoulis E Gogis), Old Brighton Grammarians 0 Lyndale Utd 2 (R Roslan 2), Dandenong Sparrows 6 (T Ithier 3 D Ithier 3) Riversdale 3 (B Mentiplay D Begg C Mitchell), Old Camberwell Grammar 2 (P Margin Own Goal) Whitehorse Utd 1 (T Gargett), Mornington 3 (A Halikias 3) Old Trinity Grammarians 0, Carrum Utd 2 (C Espinoza 2) Berwick Kings 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Mornington	15	9	3	3	36	19	30
Riversdale	14	8	2	4	42	24	26
Old Camberwell Gram	15	7	5	3	22	18	26
Lyndale Utd	15	8	1	6	32	29	25
Old Brighton Gram	15	6	3	6	28	34	21
Caulfield Utd	15	6	2	7	26	30	20
Whitehorse Utd	15	5	4	6	20	17	19
Dandenong Sparrows	15	5	3	7	23	30	18
Berwick Kings	15	6	0	9	15	28	18
Carrum Utd	14	4	4	6	19	18	16
Keysborough	15	4	4	7	24	26	16
Old Trinity Grammarians	15	4	3	8	20	34	15

Reserves

Keysborough 0 Caulfield Utd 3, Old Brighton Grammarians 5 Lyndale Utd 3, Dandenong Sparrows 0 Riversdale 7, Old Camberwell Grammar 1 Whitehorse Utd 0, Mornington 0 Old Trinity Grammarians 1, Carrum Utd 4 Berwick Kings 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Riversdale	15	13	1	1	48	17	40
Old Camberwell Gram	15	10	2	3	39	13	32
Caulfield Utd	15	10	0	5	41	23	30
Old Brighton Gramm	15	9	0	6	35	27	27
Old Trinity Grammarians	15	6	4	5	26	28	22
Lyndale Utd	15	6	3	6	29	31	21
Whitehorse Utd	15	6	2	7	22	20	20
Mornington	15	5	3	7	29	33	18
Keysborough	15	5	3	7	24	28	18
Carrum Utd	15	5	2	8	28	41	17
Dandenong Sparrows	15	4	0	11	23	44	12
Berwick Kings	15	1	0	14	22	61	3

PROVI 3 SOUTH EAST

Seniors

Noble Park 0 Beaumaris 4 (E Mehmet RA Iles DM Cappellari 2), Bayside Argonauts 2 (G Triantafillidis E(Rontoyannis) Seaford Utd 1 (Own Goal), Old Carey 1 (RP Donovan) Dandenong City 1 (Own Goal), Eltham North 2 (WJ Mulvey BW Mulcahy) Brighton 4 (C Dongalis P McCaig 2 VM Garcia), Keilor Wolves 2 (D Panev 2) Uni. of Melbourne 2 (P Leimbach S Busso), Endeavour Hills 4 (N Robinson 2 F Shabanove) Dandenong Warriors 2 (HP Le GE Quaremba)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Old Carey	15	9	3	3	30	20	30
Beaumaris	15	9	2	4	34	22	29
Seaford Utd	15	9	0	6	29	22	27
Bayside Argonauts	15	8	3	4	28	21	27
Dandenong City	15	8	2	5	37	28	26
Endeavour Hills	15	8	1	6	34	31	25
Keilor Wolves	15	7	3	5	32	28	24
Noble Park	15	6	2	7	30	32	17
Dandenong Warriors	15	5	2	8	34	37	17
Uni. of Melbourne	15	4	1	10	17	26	13
Brighton	15	4	0	11	30	46	12
Eltham North	15	2	3	10	24	46	9

Reserves

Noble Park 1 Beaumaris 4, Bayside Argonauts 3 Seaford Utd 4, Old Carey 3 Dandenong City 0, Eltham North 1 Brighton 7, Keilor Wolves 0 Uni. of Melbourne 2, Endeavour Hills 2 Dandenong Warriors 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Old Carey	15	13	0	2	48	17	39
Bayside Argonauts	14	11	1	2	41	21	34
Beaumaris	14	10	2	2	53	25	32
Dandenong Warriors	15	9	1	5	46	28	28
Seaford Utd	15	7	5	3	50	31	26
Uni. of Melbourne	15	6	2	7	33	29	20
Dandenong City	15	6	0	9	31	41	18
Brighton	15	5	1	9	28	28	16
Keilor Wolves	15	4	3	8	26	35	15
Endeavour Hills	15	4	1	10	26	50	13
Noble Park	15	3	2	10	30	65	8
Eltham North	15	2	0	13	14	56	6

ROUND SIXTEEN FIXTURES

All matches to be played on Saturday 19th July with 3pm KO unless otherwise stated.

STATE NW 2
Thomastown Devils v Williamstown
Epping Soccer Stadium Fri 18 Jul 08 8:15PM
Pascoe Vale v Altona East Phoenix
Hosken Reserve
Maribyrnong Greens v North Geelong Warriors
Skinner Reserve
Ballarat Red Devils v Brunswick City
Trekardo Park
Werribee City v Moreland City
Galvin Park Reserve
Cairnlea v Altona City
Cairnlea Park

STATE SE 2
Diamond Valley Utd v Doncaster Rovers
Partington Flats
Northcote City v Eastern Lions
John Cain Memorial Park
Casey Comets v Knox City
Comets Stadium
Chelsea v Waverley Wanderers
HD Thomas Reserve
Stonnington City v Port Melbourne
Kooyong Reserve No. 3
Peninsula Strikers v South Springvale
Centenary Park

STATE NW 3
North Sunshine Eagles v La Trobe University
Larissa Reserve
Geelong Rangers v Banyule City
Myers Reserve
Yarraville Glory v Geelong
McIvor Reserve
Sydenham Park v Lalor
Keilor Lodge Reserve
Laverton Park v Sunbury Utd
Laverton Park Reserve
Westvale v Lalor Utd
McKechnie Reserve

STATE SE 3
Doveton v Morwell Pegasus
Waratah Reserve
Southern Suburbs v Brandon Park
Keeley Park
Berwick City v Boroondara Eagles
Jack Thomas Reserve
Heatherton Utd v Croydon City Arrows
Bosnia & Herzegovina Centre
Springvale City v Endeavour Utd
Ross Reserve
North Caulfield v Sandringham City
Caulfield Park Sun 20 Jul 08 3:00PM

PROVI NW 1
Melbourne Tornado v Corio
Newmarket Reserve
Whittlesea Utd v South Yarra
Thomas Street Recreation Res.
Plenty Valley Lions v Western Eagles
Bundoora Park Pavilion
Glenroy v Melbourne City
Strathnaver Reserve
Melbourne Uni Rangers v Avondale Heights
Princes Park Oval #2
Hume Utd v Elwood City
Laura Douglas Reserve

PROVI SE 1
Ashburton v Fitzroy City
Ashburton Park
White Star Dandenong v Old Melburnians
Greaves Reserve
Mooroolbark v Noble Park Utd
Esther Park Reserve
Scotch Old Boys v Monbulk
H.A. Smith Reserve
Warragul Utd v Monash University
Baxter Park (Warragul)
Rowville Eagles v Nunawading City
Park Ridge Reserve

PROVI NW 2
Northern Falcons v Moreland Utd
Hayes Park
Bell Park v Darebin Utd
Bell Park Sports Club
Essendon Utd v Brimbank City
Aberfeldie Park
North City Lions v Melton
Wallace Reserve
West Preston v Collingwood City
Oulton Reserve
Hoppers Crossing v Keon Park
Grange Reserve

PROVI SE 2
Old Camberwell Grammar v Carrum Utd
Deepdene Park
Berwick Kings v Mornington
Betula Park
Old Trinity Gramm v Dandenong Sparrows
Trinity Sports Ground
Riversdale v Old Brighton Grammarians
Frog Hollow Reserve
Lyndale Utd v Keysborough
Lyndale Secondary College
Whitehorse Utd v Caulfield Utd
Terrara Park

PROVI NW 3
Bundoora Utd v Ascot Vale Hills
Recreation Reserve
Surf Coast v Brunswick Zebras
Quay Reserve
Moreland Wolves v Dallas Eagles
Rayner Reserve
Brimbank v Youth Utd
Italo-Australian Social Club
Mill Park v Watsonia Heights
Findon Reserve
Epping City v Northern Utd
Casa D'Abruzzo Club

PROVI SE 3
Eltham North v Endeavour Hills
Eltham North Reserve
Dandenong Warriors v Keilor Wolves
Lois Twohig Reserve
Uni. of Melbourne v Old Carey
Princes Park Oval #2
Dandenong City v Bayside Argonauts
Frank Holohan Soccer Reserve
Seaford Utd v Noble Park
North Seaford Reserve
Brighton v Beaumaris
Dendy Park

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THWAITE STARS IN VICTORY DEBUT

Green Gully Cavaliers 3
Melbourne Victory 1

Despite an outstanding debut by Qantas Socceroo Michael Thwaite, an undermanned Melbourne Victory succumbed to a 3-1 loss against Victorian Premier League (VPL) side the Green Gully Cavaliers in a spirited trial match at Green Gully Reserve last Monday night.

Thwaite starred in defence for Victory, which fielded eight Victorian Institute of Sport (VIS) players and also saw Brazilian Ney Fabiano display promising signs in front of around 2000 spectators.

Matthew Kemp converted Victory's only goal from the penalty spot, while Kristijan Ivesic, John Adam and Ryan Ollerton all scored for Green Gully, which currently sits second on the VPL ladder.

Victory finished the match with nine men after Evan Berger and VIS youngster Fabio Dilizia were both dismissed, as was Green Gully midfielder Emanuel Muscat in a lively contest.

Victory Assistant Coach Aaron Healey was pleased with the team's opening performance of 2008/09 and paid tribute to the VIS players that were promoted for the trial match.

"We trained pretty hard this morning and most of the boys had a good 60 minutes on the pitch tonight," Healey said.

"Obviously we're disappointed with the result, but in the end we had two senior players out of nine men left on the park.

"The VIS program has proven to be very successful and to have eight of their players down to play with us tonight was fantastic.

"We had 10 players out tonight, but next week we should have Rodrigo Vargas, Carlos Hernandez, Nick Ward, Sebastian Ryall and Nathan Elasi available.

"As long as we keep getting players fit and out on the park, we'll improve and be ready for the start of the season."

Healey, who oversaw proceedings in the absence of Victory Coach Ernie Merrick, praised the efforts of Thwaite and Ney Fabiano in particular ahead of the club's next trial match against the Whittlesea Zebras at Epping Soccer Stadium on Tuesday, 15 July (kick off 7pm).

"Michael Thwaite was outstanding on debut," Healey added.

"He was fantastic and he's going to be a great signing for us.

"Ney Fabiano was also solid in the first half and is learning to play the way we like to play, so it was good to get those players some time on the park, which is what we need."

Victory will open its 2008 Pre-Season Cup campaign against Adelaide United at Aurora Stadium, Launceston on Sunday, 20 July (kick off 1pm).

Match Details:

Melbourne Victory 1 (Matthew Kemp 86' pen)

Green Gully Cavaliers 3 (Kristijan Ivesic 12', John Adam 82', Ryan Ollerton 90')

Monday, 7 July 2008
Green Gully Reserve, Keilor Downs

Gully's Ryan Ollerton tussles with Victory's Evan Berger, who was later sent off in the match

Crowd: Approximately 2000

Melbourne Victory: 1.Michael THEOKLITOS (gk), 2.Kevin MUSCAT (Captain), 3.Michael THWAITE, 4.Steven PACE, 6.Steve PANTELIDIS, 7.Matthew KEMP, 9.Danny ALLSOPP, 11.NEY FABIANO, 15.Bailey WRIGHT (VIS), 18.Leigh BROXHAM, 19.Evan BERGER, 24.Brian BRAN (VIS), 25. Tom PONDELJAK, 26.Fabio DILIZIA (VIS), 27.Rudy SAGLAM (VIS), 28.Klim TASESKI (VIS), 29.Jimmy JAGGO (VIS), 30.Mitchell LANGERAK (gk), 31.Jake VANDERMIER (VIS), 32.Jake BARKER-DAISH (VIS)

Friendly Match
By Damian Souness

STERN KNOX REAPS REWARDS

Knox City 1
Chelsea 0
(Half-time 1-0)

Knox City ground out a single goal victory over Chelsea on Saturday to remain in second place in State League Division Two. Winning ugly at times is a necessary trait of good sides and Knox showed that characteristic in this match.

Chelsea may well feel aggrieved that they went home empty handed but the record will show that the few chances they created were wasted and Jorgensen in the Knox goal had to make only one decent save all game.

On the other hand Know withstood the early pressure, grabbed a 33rd minute goal and slowly won the arm wrestle. Late on, they could have easily doubled their margin with the woodwork coming to Chelsea's rescue.

The visitors made the early running, with Tudor, Rahjer and Ross all going close. Knox then started to exert some pressure but looked in some trouble when Edgar went up for a free kick and appeared to sustain a broken nose. He had to leave the field on a number of occasions to have the blood flow stemmed but each time returned to play a vital role in the victory.

The crucial goal came in the 33rd minute. Suat got clear on the right and his far post cross was headed goalwards by Nedza. Daniel Veljovic helped the ball into the net but the referee awarded the goal to Nedza.

The first fifteen minutes of the second half was a virtual stalemate as both defences proved impenetrable. Grskovic was a mountain in the Chelsea back line as he constantly broke up any forward movement by the Knox attack.

At the other end, Tudor attempted a shot when he should have released Gordon who was in a better position. Then Patterson forced a good save from Jorgensen but after that Chelsea seemed to run out of ideas.

Knox again was being driven forward by Kerr, who was having another dominant game in midfield and they could have put the game out of reach. Valadon had his shot blocked for a corner and then the same player hit the post after racing clear of the defence and beating Klarica to the ball.

Instead of defending their lead, Knox kept searching for the second goal and finished the game strongly with Klarica having to make a double save in injury time.

Knox City Reserves got back on the winning list with a 1-0 victory against Chelsea. The victory was even more meritorious considering they played the last hour with ten men but went on to take the three points and maintain their lead at the top of the league.

Knox City: M. Jorgensen, A. Edgar, N. Veljovic, Z. Martinez, C. Kerr, K. Suat (M. Hoogendyk – 85th), J. Hingert, A. Asimakidis, D. Veljovic, A. Saunders, P. Nedza (J. Valadon – 64th). Subs not used – P. Veljovic, K. McEvoy.

Chelsea: J. Klarica, J. Rahjer, T. Grskovic, S. Topalovic, Z. Tudor, C. Ross, M. Cleeland, I. Bajo (L. Palinic – 64th), J. Benli, K. Patterson. W. Gordon. Subs not used: M. Kristo, J. McCaig, K. Greig, S. Foryabee.

State League SE 2
By Bruce Darnell

THE SLEUTH

Transfer Dispute.

Rumour has it that Heidelberg were asking for $5,000 transfer for goalkeeper Marko Sutalo who eventually transferred to the Bullen Royals late last week. One HU source told us that despite a clause in Marko's contract that he can go free the club felt that he had brought it into disrepute when he was red carded earlier in the season which is why they were asking for a transfer fee. Talk about far fetched claims, this one takes the cake.

Preston win and lose points?

Heidelberg were stripped of their match win points against Preston after being found to have played a suspended player, in Denis Alilovic, but Preston failed to get the points from Coburg with whom they lost who also played a suspended player in Ross Thompson. The FFV reportedly dismissed the complaint because of their email server being down during the week and it was feared that Coburg did not receive notification of the suspension. Maybe Heidelberg should appeal on the grounds that the email server might have been down in their case. God help us if anyone at the FFV decided to pick up the phone and back up their email notification, that would be to radical one suspects.

**The Ed would like to apologize to Green Gully FC for any offence caused in a previous edition of The Sleuth.*

SUMMER LEAGUE DELAYED

FOOTBALL Federation Victoria will launch its innovative new Summer League in October.

The FFV has designed a competition that will build on the established winter form, creating new Zonal clubs that will be elite representative organisations.

Players will be hand picked from the existing clubs to represent their respective Zone of Victoria, pitting the best-of-the-best against each other.

The 12-team competition will consist of eight metropolitan and four country teams, ensuring regional areas of the state are integrated into the football community.

But the highly anticipated new senior elite competition will be held back a year in a bid to smoothen the transition period between winter and summer football.

After consultation with stakeholders regarding the introduction of the new Summer League in 2008/2009, a modified model will be introduced in the inaugural season which defers the establishment of the Elite Men's Division (semi professional) until 2009/2010.

The decision was made after information briefings were conducted by the FFV's appointed consultants, Sports Business Partners, in all 12 Zones between June 2-11.

Following the discussions with the Zones, the consultant's recommendation is to provide for a modified introduction of the Summer League in 2008/09 – before proceeding to the full Summer League model from 2009/10 onwards.

While there has been overwhelming support for the vision and model the Summer League presents to Victorian stakeholders and football fans, concerns were raised about the readiness within some of the Zones to field the Elite Men's Competition in 2008/09.

These concerns primarily relate to the tight timelines and in some cases the difficulty of raising the necessary license fee and operating costs within the required timeframe.

Therefore, to alleviate the risk to both the FFV and the Zones in the start up year of the Summer League, a modified model is required for season one.

To fill in this initial gap in the men's/boys pathway, the FFV will introduce an Under 18 Men's Youth Division (amateur team) in the 2008/09 season.

The proposed arrangements for the Boy's, Girl's and Women's amateur categories will remain.

SOCCEROOS
06
90
SOCCEROOS

U23s Hold on for Victory over NZ

The Qantas Under 23s have held on to defeat the New Zealand Under 23s 3-2 at North Sydney Oval today courtesy of two goals from Mark Milligan and superb strike from Kristian Sarkies.

The Qantas Under 23s sought to impose themselves from the outset against a New Zealand team that was looking to get some much needed match practice

Mark Milligan opened the scoring for the Qantas Under 23s in the 26th minute when he headed home a Kristian Sarkies corner at the far post. But two minutes later Jeremy Brockie equalised for New Zealand with a header himself from a free-kick.

Kristian Sarkies grabbed the lead back for the Qantas Under 23s in the 38th minute when he latched onto a poorly cleared ball and finished with aplomb from 15 yards out giving his team the lead going into the break.

The second half saw the Qantas Under 23s continue to apply the pressure and Stuart Musialik cam e close to extending the lead with a stinging shot only to see his attempt intercepted by the New Zealand Defence.

Jeremy Brockie equalised for New Zealand on the hour mark when he beat three defender at the edge of the box and coolly slot home past the advancing Qantas Under 23s Goalkeeper Tando Velaphi.

Mark Milligan scored the match winner in the 78th minute when a free-kick from Sarkies was floated into the box to a sea of bodies. From the ensuing goal mouth scramble, Milligan reacted best and fired home from close range.

Speaking after the match, Qantas Under 23s Head Coach Graham Arnold was happy with result but was realistic about the areas his team need to work on

"We have been working a lot on our combination play and I was very pleased with our performance in stages.

"If anything I was a little disappointed that we didn't get on the end of things. We should be able to kill those games off earlier.

"At the moment I'd say that we are around 75% fitness levels and over the next three and half weeks we want to increase that by another 20-25% to peak in China.

"We do need to work on our defence. The first goal came from a set move so we need to improve on that.

"But overall we played some good football and now we are looking towards the opening match of the Olympic Games against Serbia on the 7th of August, concluded Arnold.

The Qantas Under 23s will depart Australia on Thursday 17 July for three matches in China (20 July, Changchun City), Japan (24 July, Kobe) and South Korea (Seoul, 31 July) before heading back to China to prepare for their opening match of the 2008 Olympic Games against Serbia in Shanghai.

Match Details
Qantas Under 23s 3 (Mark Milligan 26'/78', Kristian Sarkies 38')
New Zealand 2 (Jeremy Brockie 28'/52')
Saturday 12 July 2008
North Sydney Oval, North Sydney Oval
Crowd: 2,312

Qantas Under 23s line-up: 18.Tando Velaphi (gk), 2.Jade North (3.Adrian Leijer 46'), 4.Stuart Musialik (17.Billy Celeski 72'), 5.Mark Milligan, 6.Nikolai Topor-Stanley, 7.Kristian Sarkies, 11.James Troisi, 12.Matthew Spiranovic, 13.Trent McClenahan, 14.Nikita Rukavytsya (19. Matthew Simon 79'), 15.Ruben Zadkovich (8.Mark Bridge 63').

Substitutes Not Used: 1.Chris O'Connor (gk), 10.Archie Thompson, 20.Nigel Boogaard, 21.James Holland, 22.Leigh Broxham

Yellow Cards: James Troisi 83'.
Red Cards: Nil

New Zealand line-up: 1.Jacob Spoonley (gk), 3.Ian Hogg (16.Hone Fowler 82'), 4.Cole Peverley (7.Cole Tinkler 60'), 5.Michael Boxall, 6.Steven Old, 8.Shaun Van Rooyen, 9.Jeremy Brockie, 10.Daniel Ellensohn, 11.Sam Jenkins (14.Joel Mathews 89'), 15.Sam Messam (13.Craig Henderson 53'), 17.Jack Pelter.

Substitutes Not Used: 2.Aaron Scott, 20.Liam Little (gk).

Yellow Cards: Jermey Brockie 50', Steven Old 63'.
Red Cards: Nil

FOOTBALL
FEDERATION
AUSTRALIA

Matildas Do it for Di

The Matildas have defeated the New Zealand Women's Football team 1-0 at North Sydney Oval today, in a match that also fare welled Di Alagich who played her 86th and final match for her country.

The match was historic on other levels with Matildas captain Cheryl Salisbury making her 150th "A" International and Leena Khamis scoring her first international goal for the Matildas.

Di Alagich was substituted late in the match to a standing ovation from the crowd and hugs from her team-mates as she signaled the end of her 13 year career with the national team.

After the match Alagich reflected on her time with the Matildas.

"It was a great way to finish. I said to the girls before the match that I didn't want to lose this one and they came through for me.

"I thought I was going to be more emotional today, but I really enjoyed the match and everything finished on a good note. "It was my time to finish. I wanted to go out at the to of my game and I was able to do that today," concluded Alagich.

Matildas coach Tom Sermanni was glowing in his praise of Alagich's contribution to women's football in Australia.

"Today was a vintage Di Alagich performance. "She almost scored from a corner and made some terrific last grasp tackles to win things. I thought she played very well and to cap it off with a win was a most appropriate way to go out.

"I feel a great sense of pride to have been there at the start of her career and now to be here at the end I feel rather privileged with that.

In relation to the match, Sermanni was very pleased with the result.

"They were obviously really determined to get a result out of us today and they keep pushing us to the limit.

"In the end I was happy to get the goal and come away with the win", concluded Sermanni.

The Matildas will play their next international friendly match against the Japanese Women's National Team on Thursday 24 July at the Home Stadium in Kobe, Japan as part of a double-header with the Qantas Under 23s scheduled to face the Japanese Under 23 Men's National Team at the same venue later in the day.

Match Details
Australia 1 (Leena Khamis 35')
New Zealand 0
Saturday 12 July 2008
North Sydney Oval, North Sydney Oval
Crowd: 1,604

Australia line-up: 1.Melissa Barbieri (18. Lydia Williams 46'), 2. Kate McShea, 4. Dianne Alagich, 5. Cheryl Salisbury (C) (25. Brooke Spence 85'), 7. Heather Garriock, 8. Caitlin Munoz, 14. Clare Polkinghorne, 15. Kyah Simon (10. Leena Khamis 22'), 16. Lauren Colthorpe, 17. Danielle Small (24.Yesim Servet Uzunlar 57'), 20. Joanne Burgess (12. Ellyse Perry 57')

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BOO'S WORLD

With Mark Boric

It appears that flares are making a comeback in the football fashion stakes

The FFV Summer League had a few details given out in the last week. Most interestingly, there will be no Elite Men's Division (Semi-Professional) in the upcoming season. Only the amatuer women's and junior divisions will go ahead. Is this because no one from the zones is willing to put up the money?

From the memo: "There will be no license fee payable for Season One of the Summer League". Again, are the zones not prepared to put up the money? It's also a shame the current FFV clubs are unable to get such affiliation fee relief when the FFV are unable to deliver on promises or provide satisfactory service.

"The FFV expects to be in a position to cover the base payment to each of the Zone coaches." Well seeing as juniors are now being fined for red cards like seniors are, I'm sure they can. They can probably cover lots of other expenses, too.

"Discussions are also advanced on an apparel supplier that will significantly reduce zone costs." Does the current FFV Apparel Licensing Scheme reduce costs for FFV clubs? Have cheaper brands ever been overlooked when licenses are up?

I would suggest that the best way of reducing zone costs is to let them buy the cheapest kits wherever they can. Being locked into buying from an official apparel supplier doesn't mean they will be able to get the best deal that is out there.

I've also had a look at the Business Development section of the Strategic Direction for Victorian Football 2008-2011. By 2011 the FFV will have "a revenue model that is less dependent on members/clubs (no more than 40% of overall income). At the moment it seems the trend is going in the other direction, with the FFV looking for more and more ways to drain money out of clubs. Can't see how they will turn this around.

.The Melbourne Victory has commenced pre-season friendlies with VPL clubs, or as I like to call it, Flare Season. Last week Flare Season opened at Green Gully and will move to Epping Stadium for a game with Whittlesea Zebras this week.

Victory opened with a defeat at Green Gully. Plenty of excuses, of course, just like there were in last season's A-League campaign. It's an early call, but maybe they should look at making a big axing to improve results. Yes, the media manager should be sacked!

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KATSA'S KORNER

With George Katsamboukas

KATSA'S KORNER
6-20

Here we are after a 2 week break. And what a big two weeks it has been in Soccer, where….

The House of Darebin has been flat stick with media announcements aplenty.

In one of the biggest U-Turns ever witnessed, the proposed Summer League competition has been postponed till 2009/2010.

Mark and Co, G'day Mark, received advice from an outside agency that it would be wise to put of this competition for another year.

Reality is though, that a large number of the "Football Family" were about as keen for the Summer League to be introduced, as I would be to swap J Walker for G Rants, and these members acted to ensure that if the Summer League was introduced in 2008, there would have been plenty of "watch these spaces" up Darebin way.

The manufacturers of Speedo Bathers have also increased their production run for this summer, as the players that were going to play in this new Summer League, will now be able to spend more time down the Beach.

There was another Media announcement that caught my eye, which appeared out of nowhere, where the good folk at the FFV who are concerned for the welfare of firstly the players that cannot get a gig in their team's starting eleven, and also the people that have decided that they are not good enough to begin in the starting eleven, otherwise known as Coach's, where they have announced that covered bench's must be provided at all venues, to cater for these people.

Penalties for not having covered benches include monetary fines, suspension from competition or being forced to play all home games at alternative venues.

If you are lucky, you can get a Three for Two offer!

Now what makes this announcement very interesting is that the majority of A-League Clubs do not have covered benches, yet lower level Clubs are expected to have them.

Even more interesting is that the House of Darebin's own Venue situated directly next door to FFV Headquarters also do not have covered coach's benches!

All that remains now is for Club Powerbrokers whose energy has been stretched to the limit with spending countless hours of their own time each week, to fork out 3-6 Thousand Dollars to purchase these covered benches, but wait there's more, please don't send any money now.

Each Home Match, these Volunteers will also have the privilege of wheeling these portable benches in and out from the ground.

Welcome to Soccer in Victoria!

Attention all unemployed Coach's, disgruntled Coach's or Coach's about to become one of the Scorers statistics.

If you are looking for a new gig, there is no better place to go than to the Veneto Club on every other Monday, where whilst the Bulleen Royals are playing, you can make contact with countless Club Powerbrokers who are there to satisfy their Monday Night fix of Soccer.

Also, some of the worst rumours can be heard by spectators at these Games, somehow, I have yet to hear one that has come true.

Eastlink has officially opened, and Katsa used this new Freeway last week.

After an 11 minute trip took 33 minutes, (an exit was missed), Katsa got to thinking that Eastlink not only links Ringwood with Frankston, it also allows a quicker travel time to the Westgate, where….

A number of Clubs need not wait till seasons end to visit the great bridge, as their ticket to relegation will be booked and confirmed in 3 weeks.

Club development is always a big ticket item for me and it was pleasing to see that one Club has developed in that J Walker has been introduced, at the expense of G Rants.

Until next week,

This is Katsa – Just as you've known him.

And remember, where logic ends, Katsa begins.

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TSIGAN'S TSIGAR

With Mike Lilikakis

WAG THE DOG

I could only wish that that was the dog's name. I played footy once with a bloke we affectionately called "Wags". An absolute gun ruck rover, who jumped into everything and pole axed anyone that stood with in a centimeter of the ball. He destroyed chaps of a lesser evil, and set up quite a number of forward thrusts. Only problem was, he would talk to players when the ball wasn't around.

Why is that an issue? Its just not cricket when you're playing footy.

Once he got caught yapping to his opponent for about 5 minutes, and we copped a goal. I hate copping goals. I lambasted him for his indiscretion, and he returned fire with a novel rebuttal, namely, that that was his way of putting his opponent off the game. Funny that. His opponent was his brother in law.

Too often, players get caught in the natter of the moment and leave the team out to dry. When I see opposition players having a laugh during a game, the Mercury rises past Jupiter. The small matter of playing for premiership points pales into insignificance when these "Wags" decide that fair play is only skin deep, and smacking people around is only when they get hammered first.

Sure we are in the "Fair Play" generation, where trophies are awarded to team's for being just and responsible in ethics and morals. Pity the other players get ripped in half when goals are conceded because do goodies are more concerned about when they determine they should or should not go hard.

90 minutes is a short period of time in context of a week of hard yakka, especially when every one's wage is determined on a win-draw-loss ratio. Please bear in mind Yogi, the vast majority of players and spectators want the biff, unless you're playing in the under 12's.

TORO TORO

It seems beyond a shadow of a doubt that this year is all Espanol. The Iberians have gone hard, gone strong and revived the spirit of the man from la Muncha to take home both European and Wimbledon glory. I was impressed with the way the boys went about with their business. Normally they are only as good as 3am, but proving all roads lead to Madrid was an easy feat this year.

Rafael with his super strong left bicep proved too much for the freak from Switzerland who was trying to achieve a rare feat of 6 straight is Don is good titles. Bjorn Borg breathed a sigh of relief, and most chique chicks went gaga over the nefarious Nadal. Good on him. He proved he was more than just a clay court specialist by winning on the hooch in front of the Pom's who immediately clamed him as one of their own.

Next year they hope to have him hailed as the biggest thing since Ian "Beefy" Botham and Freddy Flintoff. Even though Spanglish came out as a bad movie once upon a field trip ago, it's a well known fact that more Poms' travel to Spain for their drug induced stupors than anywhere else on this teeny tiny planet. Without the Pom's, the Spanish would still be mired in blowing each other up and calling the unfortunate Portuguese "el placebo".

Nobody expects the Spanish Inquisition

RON EL DON'T

Boo frikkin' hoo goes out to Cristiano Ronaldo who was heard to lament his unfortunate slave status for being contracted to Manchester United.

What a spaghetti marinara mit mein eine Kleine perri perri jus.

Christiano cry baby

Here's a kid who earns more than $200,000 a game playing at arguably the most successful football club of the last 15 years, standing outside his multi million dollar pad talking to journalists, having a big sook because he signed a 10 year contract with the Red Devils two years ago, which would potentially earn him over 30 million dollars over said period of time.

The nerve of him to portray himself as some sort of modern day football martyr, when kids in his own country are starving is more than just hypocritical, it is outright diabolical. Sure he had a great season, but to equate himself as some wounded minion being lashed and whipped by one corporate giant, whilst wishing to play for another corporate giant for more money makes me want to wretch.

If I had a longer reach, I would slap him around or a minute, clothesline him, pull out a souplex, and drop an elbow off the top rope a dozen times before taking the ring side deck chair, and slamming him with it another dozen times.

Real footballers play for pride, not for cash. Just ask the boys from Knox United in Amateur League 615, who give up their Sundays and play like ferocious whelps.

COR BEE BOO BOO BEE

So we all had a teary eye when this bute Ozzie sheila got done in Bali for packing a boogie board case choc full of nature's funky falafel. Now the truth has come out, pitting her old man as the packer, dacker and master macker of the shindig.

Let's hope the government puts in a good word to ASIO and sends her old man off on a Midnight Express mission to bust her out of jail just so our brilliant screenplay writers, producers and directors can get a movie going ASAP.

Pamela "Boobies" Anderson made an express visit to the Little Sister house and proceeded to shake a tail feather and nibble a pretentiously precocious wing ding whilst the majority of salivating plastic fantastic boy toys groaned en masse.

So she's got big gazungers, and made a porno with a rock star or two. Anyone realize she has the IQ of a quail, and is fighting a cause on our turf when the real culprit is a dead old man who perfected 11 secret herbs and spices, and never spoke a word of true blue dinky di ozzie ozzie ozzie oi oi oi ?

Not hardly.

As long as her nipples stay perky, and she dyes her hair and rolls the cricket pitch once a day no one cares. Well I do. She is a big time dipstick who wouldn't know a tailpipe from an exhaust. My chassis is clear, and my hemi is more than just fully sick mate. Send her off to Guantanamo Bay to entertain the flagging POW's for a day, and all will be forgiven.

I think snot.

SPQR
USSR
Abba Dabba Doo Doo
Tsigan esq.

Kentucky's new chick

KNIGHTS PLUCK WIN AGAINST EAGLES

Super League Para Hills Knights played out a hard fought 2-1 victory over the Adelaide Blue Eagles at the Marden Sports Complex.

An end to end first half saw both sides trying to break down each others defences with plenty of shots on goal working both keepers. Midway through the first half, Knights netted their first goal via a sweetly timed strike from 2007 joint Sergio Melta Medal winner Nicholas Orr. The Blue Eagles immediately equalising within the minute from in-form Ricardo DaSilva. With scores tied at one goal a piece, both sides played out a very tight second half. The turning point of the match coming when Eagles substitution Adam Vizzari was red carded after allegedly handballing in the box, having taken his place on the field less a minute beforehand. Experienced Knights striker Mark Mulady made no mistake putting away the penalty to take the Knights to a 2-1 lead and eventual victory, despite the many desperate attempts on goal by the Eagles. Special mention to young Knights defender Matthew Marchioro, again putting in a brilliant performance. Speaking after the entertaining match, Knights coach Rob Ditroia said, “It was a good, tough win against quality opposition and it now gives us a shot for a finals berth. We have gained some consistency with the three consecutive wins.”

Carl Maynard’s third placed Adelaide Galaxy travelled to Newton Village Sports Complex to play out a scoreless draw against Rocky Aloisi’s fifth placed Campbelltown City. The first half was a fairly even affair, at one stage resembling a game of pinball as Red Devils Josef Anello’s shot ricocheted off several Galaxy defenders into the hand of keeper Julian Torresan for a corner. Desperate defending from both sides was the order of the day especially in the box. Campbelltown had the opportunity to take the lead in the second half through an Andy Fowler diving header that went wide of goal. Galaxy’s Toby Nelson put in a sterling performance as did keeper Torresan. Campbelltown’s defenders Michael D’Aloisio and Paul Savio were rock solid, with Domenic Signoriello and Christopher D’Alfonso complimenting them well. Assistant coach Carmine Lauriello stated, “It was a good result considering we have two of our key players out, midfielder Nathan Fleetwood and striker Jason Trimboli due to suspension.”

Knights Matthew Marchioro and Eagles Stefan Forte go head to head to win the ball.

At Polonia Park, homeside Croydon Kings, succumbed to the brilliance of Adelaide City’s strikeforce with a 0-4 defeat, despite putting in a valiant first half effort to keep Adelaide City scoreless, their hopes of avoiding relegation now seemingly all over. City’s midfield supremo Freddy Agius was back in the side and partnered with Nick Budin, make a very dangerous duo. A four goal demolition coming in the second half via the new combination of Damian Mori and his young protégé Patrick DeRuvo scoring two a piece. Mori has now surpassed his 2006 and 2007 Golden Boot winning tally of 13 goals, currently sitting on 14 goals with four games still to be played. Thoughts go out to young Jace Cummins, with what was looking as a minor knee injury, now needing surgery after dislocating it in the FFSA Cup quarter final match against Campbelltown a fortnight ago.

Jet Park on a Saturday night was a nightmare for opponents Raiders as they were outclassed 2-1 by the Modbury Jets, even without their Captain Nathan Day. Another match that saw a tight scoreless first half, goals were netted via Jets Konrad Kosznik (48’) and Rhys Devlin (63’) and Raiders talented Osama Malik (78’). After the match Jets Coach Duane Gray, now on a three game winning streak said, “It was another good result for us and a thoroughly deserved win. Our players have shown great character under pressure and are now gaining their rewards for all their hard work.”

At Frank Mitchell Park Mike Barnett’s MetroStars were too strong in their big 4-1 victory against homeside Warriors. The normally solid defence of White City was unable to contain Stars striker Michael Matricciani scoring a double, Jim Stavrides and Tim Sarris with a single, while the Warriors Charles Marwe scored a rare defender’s goal for his side. Recent Warriors acquisition, former Adelaide City defender George Tsonis yet to play a game for his new side, is looking forward to earning his spot in the team. Captain Chad Bugeja only rejoining his team one week ago due to injury since round 3, said that the side was looking forward to cementing a place in the top five to extend their playing season and avoid relegation.

With only four games to go in the season proper, the end of the 2008 FFSA Men’s Super League season is shaping up to be a brilliant and most exciting one for player, coach and football fan alike.

SUPER LEAGUE STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Adelaide City	12	9	1	2	23	11	12	28
MetroStars	12	8	1	3	22	10	12	25
Blue Eagles	12	5	4	3	14	11	3	19
Campbelltown	12	5	3	4	15	14	1	18
Adelaide Galaxy	12	5	2	5	23	22	1	17
White City	12	5	2	5	15	17	-2	17
Raiders	12	3	5	4	23	17	6	14
Modbury	12	3	3	6	14	21	-7	12
Para Hills	12	3	3	6	13	21	-8	12
Croydon	12	0	4	8	9	27	-18	4

By Nat Adamopoulos

Photo by George Manos

PETKOVIC FOR MORE GLORY

Two times Glory championship winning goalkeeper Jason Petkovic will see out his brilliant career between the posts for Perth after penning a new one year deal with the club.

Petkovic is a favourite son at the Glory having played 173 matches, fourth all-time, and was instrumental in Perth’s back to back NSL Championships in 2002/03 and 2003/04.

A horrific leg injury sustained midway through the 2006/07 season threatened to sideline the popular West Australian permanently however an unwavering determination to finish his career on the pitch has seen him return to full fitness and keen to add to his Glory games tally.

“After nearly two years of being sidelined I wanted to see at the very least how I was going to go and I appreciate the club showing faith in me,” Petkovic said.

“I’ll be doing everything I can to repay that faith with a good season,” said Petkovic.

Following a painstaking rehabilitation program Petkovic returned for the final three matches of last season but again was forced to draw on his inner strength during the off-season after having the pin removed that helped heal his broken leg.

During the Glory’s recent tour of Indonesia the former Socceroo proved he hadn’t lost any of his talent, displaying the quick reflexes and steady hands that earned him 16 national team appearances.

“I felt great, better than I expected,” Petkovic said.

“I think now that I’ve had a decent few months to get my body right it has given me a good base and it showed in the game last week.

“I think every athlete would like to finish their career on their own terms and not have it dictated to them by injury, so I’m thankful to have the opportunity to give it my best shot.”

Petkovic’s signing completes a goal keeping trio that’s second to none in the Hyundai A-League and joins experienced new recruit Frank Juric and Olyroos ‘keeper Tando Velaphi protecting Glory’s last line.

“Jason has put in a tremendous amount of work to get back to a position to push for selection and we felt he could contribute significantly to our cause this season,” said Head Coach Dave Mitchell.

“In building a squad I wanted to create competition for places and we have achieved that across the park and in goal. Jason proved in recent outings he can continue to perform to the standard he has produced throughout a long and successful career.

“Jason is a wonderful example of how you can achieve great things through hard work and determination and I have no doubt he’ll serve as an inspiration for the entire club throughout the season,” Mitchell said.

The veteran ‘keeper believes the squad Mitchell has put together has the ability to again bring glory to the WA club.

“There are plenty of boys, including me, that have been around the club for a while and are desperate to change the results of the last couple of seasons plus the new guys are also ready to take up that challenge as well,” Petkovic said.

“There is a lot of determination amongst the players and from my experience that can only help breed positive results. I’m confident we’ll be very competitive this season,” said Petkovic.

Perth Glory has 21 players contracted for the 2008/09 season.

FOOTBALL WEST STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Sorrento FC	12	8	2	2	36	21	15	26
Inglewood Utd	12	8	1	3	25	18	7	25
Cockburn City	12	7	2	3	28	25	3	23
Floreat Athena	12	7	1	4	22	16	6	22
Mandurah City	12	6	2	4	36	23	13	20
Perth	11	6	2	3	27	23	4	21
ECU Joondalup	11	5	1	5	30	21	9	17
Stirling Lions	12	4	4	4	23	17	6	16
Swan I.C. SC	12	4	3	5	28	27	1	15
Western Knights	12	4	1	7	19	28	-9	13

By Mark White

in Perth

SHARKS SUFFER SECOND LOSS AS RIVALS GAIN

After losing their first game last week, leaders Sutherland suffered another surprise loss to Marconi on Saturday night. The Italian-backed club won 3-0 against the team coached by their former boss Brian Brown.

Sutherland's rivals were not slow to gain ground. Wollongong continued their excellent run with a 3-0 home win over Blacktown, while Sydney Olympic and Sydney United both registered crucial away wins, over Manly and Penrith-Nepean respectively.

In a match which offered little more than pride to the winners, the West Sydney Berries prevailed 2-1 over Bankstown at Jensen Park.

APIA-Leichhardt 2 – Macarthur Rams 0

Last season, APIA-Leichhardt missed out on the finals despite being in the top three for almost the entire season. This year, it may just end up being the other way around.

With a deserved 2-0 win over the Macarthur Rams at Lambert Park on Sunday, APIA continued their excellent late-season run, and are now poised to make a dramatic late entry into the final five.

APIA made the early running in the game. On 7 minutes, Robert Younis laid a neat ball off to Stephen Kayes, whose looping shot was tipped over the bar by Macarthur keeper Brody Crane.

Macarthur slowly worked their way into the game, and with Younis isolated up front (not for the first time this season), APIA went into their shell somewhat.

A long ball from Paul Kohler reached David D'Apuzzo on the left on 22 minutes, but the new Central Coast Mariners signing sent his right-footed shot whistling over the Macarthur bar.

Kohler was involved again on 36 minutes, when Jamie McMaster (who had earlier been booked for diving) played him in on goal on the right. Working the ball onto his left foot with some difficulty, Kohler eventually shot firmly at goal, only to have his shot blocked by the backside of a Macarthur defender.

Towards the end of the half, Macaerthur came strongly back into the game, with Craig Cooley at the heart of things. On 39 minutes, he beat D'Apuzzo and cut inside from the right, but shot wide of the target; three minutes later, he again broke free in the middle and slid the ball across to Glen Trifiro on the left. The latter should have provided a return ball for Cooley, but instead sent a weak cross-shot well wide.

Young Josh Ford provided the final action of the half, surging down the right and providing a useful cutback for Shannon Hankin; the visitors' frontman, however, could not get enough power behind his shot at goal.

Simon Ryan came on for a sluggish-looking Christian Care at the break, and APIA regained the initiative, with Jamie McMaster now playing alongside Younis up front. A fine APIA move on 49 minutes ended with Ian King crossing from the right, and Younis's clever flick-header beat Crane but rebounded off the far post.

APIA's dominance continued, and shortly after the hour Kohler connected with a forward run by Daniel Clifford, who had moved to right-back after the break. Clifford, however, applied a true defender's finish. Two more chances followed in quick succession: first Trifiro, on a Macarthur break, fed David Lagudi on the right, who pulled the ball across goal just out of Hankin's reach. Then there was action at the other end, with Younis holding the ball up superbly in the box and flicking on for McMaster, whose spectacular overhead kick was turned wide by Crane.

The home side's attacking verve was finally rewarded in the 76th minute, in rather soft fashion. A left-wing cross from D'Apuzzo was handled in the box by Daniel McCann: a penalty was instantly and correctly awarded.

Although Robert Younis had to re-take his shot because of encroachment at the first attempt, he slammed the ball into the back of the net on the second try.

Renato Jelen replaced Lagudi as Macarthur came forward in search of an equalizer, and indeed Macarthur rallied somewhat after the goal. Paul Crisp had two half-chances at the APIA end, the second a thumping right-footed volley from 25 yards which, sadly for the away side, went straight at Matthew Nash.

APIA still looked dangerous at the other end. A surging run by Younis was only stopped by a superb last-ditch tackle by Ford on 87 minutes, but in the first minute of injury time came the clincher. John Kelso, breaking forward from defence, found McMaster in the inside-left channel, and the former Leeds United man beat Crane neatly with a curling right-foot shot.

Another win for APIA, then, to take them within a stone's throw of the leading pack.

By Mike Salter

in Sydney

TELECHOICE RESULTS

Marconi Stallions 3 (Jay Lucas 35m Nahuel Arrarte 56m pen Tolgay Ozbey 65m) Sutherland Sharks 0, Wollongong FC 3 (Ilija Prenzoski 6m Christopher Price 54m Steven Hayes 72m) Blacktown City Demons 0, Bankstown City 1 (Paul Harries 86m) West Sydney Berries 2 (Jacek Sobczyk 11m John Tsironis 37m), Penrith Nepean United 0 Sydney United 4 (Joseph Vrkic 6m Ivan Basnar 35m Luka Glavas 62/90m), Manly United FC 0 Sydney Olympic 2 (Own Goal 27m Matthew Mayora 59m), APIA Leichhardt Tigers 2 (Robert Younis 79m Pen Jamie McMaster 90m) Macarthur Rams 0

TELECHOICE STANDINGS

		P	W	D	L	F	A	D	Pts
1	Sutherland Sharks	20	11	7	2	41	18	23	40
2	Wollongong FC	19	11	4	4	32	16	16	37
3	Sydney Olympic	20	11	4	5	34	20	14	37
4	Manly United FC	20	11	2	7	39	19	20	35
5	Sydney United	19	9	6	4	29	17	12	33
6	A.P.I.A Leichhardt Tigers	20	8	7	5	34	28	6	31
7	Bankstown City	20	6	5	9	23	25	-2	23
8	West Sydney Berries	20	6	3	11	26	34	-8	21
9	Marconi Stallions	20	3	10	7	26	35	-9	19
10	Penrith Nepean United	20	3	8	9	20	43	-23	17
11	Blacktown City	20	3	6	11	12	35	-23	15
12	Macarthur Rams	20	3	6	11	11	37	-26	15

SOUTH AND OLYMPIC NECK AND NECK

South Hobart maintained a 2-point lead over Hobart Olympic at the top of the Southern Tasmanian Premier League competition after both suffered one defeat and one victory over the past two weeks.

Hobart Olympic went down 3-1 at home to sixth-placed Clarence United, while South Hobart lost 3-2 at home to fourth-ranked Glenorchy Knights at Washington Street.

Clarence hit the woodwork twice in the opening half against Olympic and then fell behind to a goal by Michael Bulis, who tapped the ball home after Danijel Djekanovic's free-kick had hit the post.

Second half-goals by Nathan Rees and Paul Bremner put Clarence in the driving seat and a penalty by Bremner before the end sealed the win for the visitors.

Joe Minnucci put Knights ahead against South Hobart after only two minutes, but former Knights player Shae Hickey equalised from David Cooper's cross in the 27th minute.

Tom Roach gave South the lead early in the second half, but Josh Fielding made it 2-2 in the 52nd minute and Igor hit the winner two minutes into stoppage time.

The following weekend, Olympic overcame eighth-placed Kingborough Lions United 3-2 away at Lightwood Park through two goals by Kosta Grillas and one by Bulis.

Charles White and Tom McDonald replied for the Lions.

At Washington Street in the meantime, a second-half goal by Cooper saw South Hobart 1-0 winners against seventh-placed New Town Eagles.

Reigning champions Tilford Zebras are third and still in contention for the title after beating bottom-side Taroona 4-1 at KGV Park.

Taroona's Tom Sherman, brother of Whittlesea Zebras' James Sherman, cancelled out Ricky Self's opener for the Zebras, but a volley from Paul Cairns and two superb strikes by substitute Aaron Brazendale gave the Zebras victory.

Eagles keeper Nathan Pitchford catches the ball above South Hobart's DavidCooper

Second-last Metro are staring relegation in the face after losing 2-0 at home to fifth-placed University and then 2-0 away to Glenorchy Knights at KGV Park.

Luke Temby netted both goals for University and Tom Huigsloot both goals for the Knights.

It took the Knights almost an hour to wear down Metro and it was Tom Huigsloot who put them in front in the 59th minute with a far-post header from Jade Clay's deep cross from the left.

Huigsloot repeated the effort in the 72nd minute, this time with a header at the far post from Jacob Gordon's cross from deep on the left.

The battle to avoid relegation heated up when New Town Eagles drew 0-0 at home with Kingborough Lions United at Clare Street.

Devonport City lead the Northern Tasmanian Premier League despite having the bye last weekend.

They and Prospect Knights are on 25 points, despite Knights suffering a 5-0 thrashing at home by Somerset.

Northern Rangers, 6-0 conquerors of Launceston United, are a point behind in third spot.

Fourth-ranked Burnie United beat Launceston City 3-1, while sixth-placed Riverside Olympic overcame bottom-side Ulverstone 3-1 away at the Ulverstone Showgrounds.

Next week, Northern Tasmania meets Southern Tasmania at Launceston's Aurora Stadium in the curtain-raiser to the A-League pre-season cup match between Melbourne Victory and Adelaide United.

These A-League sides have met twice before in Launceston. In 2006, Adelaide won 1-0, while last year, the result was a 1-1 draw.

Victory had two players in Launceston and two in Hobart last week conducting school clinics ahead of the cup match.

SOUTH TPL STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Hobart	13	10	1	2	42	12	31
Hobart Olympic	13	9	2	2	39	23	29
Tilford Zebras	12	8	1	3	49	19	25
Glen Knights	13	8	1	4	32	21	25
University	12	6	2	4	19	17	20
Clarence United	12	5	2	5	20	22	17
NT Eagles	13	3	2	8	12	23	12
King Lions Utd	13	2	5	6	19	37	11
Metro	13	2	1	10	17	39	7
Taroona	12	0	2	10	12	49	2

NORTH TPL STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Devonport City	10	8	1	1	38	8	25
Pros Knights	11	8	1	2	26	13	25
North Rangers	11	7	3	1	34	11	24
Burnie United	11	6	2	3	22	23	20
Somerset	10	6	0	4	26	13	18
Rivers Olympic	11	4	1	6	19	24	13
Launceston City	11	1	4	6	16	27	7
Launceston Utd	11	1	1	9	9	44	4
Ulverstone	10	0	1	9	7	34	1

By Walter Pless

Photos by Walter Pless

SOCCER SIDESHOW

A bit of this, that and the other...

This week's football television & radio listings.

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The Victorian Football Show
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The Green Gully Football Show

Every Saturday C31 10.30am

World Game Football Show

88.6 FM Plenty Valley
11am Every Saturday

Classic Quotes

Football's a difficult business and aren't they prima donnas. But it's a wonderful game.
Queen Elizabeth II
To Premier League Chairman David Richards, November 2006.

I'm sure sex wouldn't be so rewarding as this World Cup. It's not that sex isn't good but the World Cup is every four years and sex is not.
Ronaldo
Brazilian soccer player, after winning 2002 World Cup.

Pele called me the greatest footballer in the world. That is the ultimate salute to my life.
George Best
Northern Ireland soccer player, from his autobiography, The Good, The Bad and the Bubbly.

Football is all very well a good game for rough girls, but not for delicate boys.
Oscar Wilde
Irish writer.

At a football club, there's a holy trinity the players, the manager and the supporters. Directors don't come into it. They are only there to sign the checks.
Bill Shankly
English soccer manager.

READER COMPETITION

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Q.In the 2006 movie "Goal", which actor starred as the football genius hero?

a. Boris Becker
b. Kuno Becker
c. David Beckham
d. Double Decker

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PUMA BOOTS GET THUMBS UP

By Josip Loncaric
(PIctured playing in white for St. Albans Saints against Westgate on the weekend)

For all those local soccer players in Australia that have had to make do with substandard playing pitches in recent years, only you can understand the importance of a comfortably fitting soccer boot.

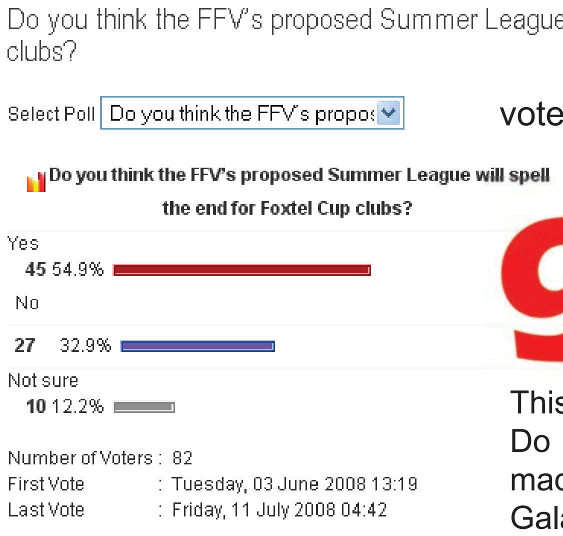
Whilst I have been a long time wearer of the tried and trusted Copa Mundial boot by Adidas, I have been pleasantly surprised by Puma's v-Konstrukt II GCi FG boots, which I managed to win in a generous GOAL! Weekly give away.

The boots are absolutely fantastic, providing comfort, stability and excellent support for the testing pitches that we play on in the State League One competition. Due to water restrictions and drought, our home ground of Churchill Reserve has a stronger resemblance to a cow paddock than a football pitch.

I have found the actual feel and comfort provided by the Puma's v-Konstrukt II GCi FG to be exceptional and have found that I finish matches with not pain, no swollen ankles or soreness that tends to come from playing on a hard pitch.

So to all the guys at Puma, keep up the good work and thank you for developing such a comfortable and affordable boot. I highly recommend anyone that has had trouble playing on the hard grounds in Australia to give the Puma's v-Konstrukt II

GW POLL RESULTS



Do you think the FFV's proposed Summer League will spell the end for Foxtel Cup clubs?

Select Poll Do you think the FFV's propos

Do you think the FFV's proposed Summer League will spell the end for Foxtel Cup clubs?

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Yes
 45 54.9%
No
27    32.9%
Not sure
 10 12.2%

Number of Voters :  82
First Vote        :  Tuesday, 03 June 2008 13:19
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This week's question:
Do you think Harry Kewell made the right decision to join Galatasaray?

Street Soccer National Championships

Enjoy an inspiring day of grassroots football at The Big Issue's Street Soccer National Championships.

Across Australia, Street Socceroos are using the round ball to tackle homelessness, substance abuse and mental illness.

On Sunday 20 July, the Street Soccer National Championships will showcase the players' courage, passion and determination to change their lives as they compete in a fast paced, four-a-side street soccer tournament.

Players will also be vying for their chance to represent Australia at the Melbourne 2008 Homeless World Cup – a world class, annual international football tournament changing lives.

The day kicks off at 9am with a school tournament and corporate cup, followed by the Street Soccer National Championships at 1pm.

Entry is free, so come on down and show your support for the Street Socceroos.

For more information visit www.bigissue.org.au or contact The Big Issue on (03) 9663 4533.

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WOMEN'S & MEN'S MASTERS

Results & Ladders

MENS METROPOLITAN LEAGUE: Upfield 2 (HE Kakos A Al Mugoter) Caulfield Grammarians 2 (J Connor L Menzies), Broadmeadows Utd 2 (S Gorgun O Ermis) East Bentleigh 0, Meadow Park 4 (D Magro B Staines 2 M Falcone) Reservoir Strikers 3 (R Salmen 3), Glen Waverley 2 (JA Reed M(Nanos) Darebin Legends 2 (R Al-Badri H Al-Husaini), St. Kevins 0 Ringwood City 6 (S Harrison 3 MW Demmert T Nzenza S Vukicevic), Res: Upfield 4 Caulfield Grammarians 0, Broadmeadows Utd 0 East Bentleigh 3, Meadow Park 1 Reservoir Strikers 1, Glen Waverley 0 Darebin Legends 6, St. Kevins 2 Ringwood City 3

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE: Div 1 Sen: South Yarra 4 (L Alonzo 2 T Harrison S O'Grady) Ballarat Strikers 1 (S Oliver), Whitehorse Utd 0 Whittlesea Zebras 0, Bayswater Strikers 1 (S Dethridge) Brighton 0, GRFA 0 Monbulk 1, Res: South Yarra 0 Ballarat Strikers 0, Whitehorse Utd 1 Whittlesea Zebras 0, Bayswater Strikers 1 Brighton 2, GRFA 3 Monbulk 5

Div 2 North-West: La Trobe University 0 Port Melbourne 4 (K Emmanouilides 2 J Mazza AL Cummins), Altona City 2 (E Guardiani A Fetahovic) Melton 0, Melbourne Bears 3 (C Akbulat 2 N Agnoletto) Brunswick Zebras 0, Darebin Falcons 1 (NK Morgan) North Geelong 2 (J Milinkovic I Sarcevic), Bundoora Utd 7 (S Fedele S Peluso 4 N Nicolaou 2) Fawkner Blues 5 (AK McDonald 2 C Rashou S Basile 2)

Div 2 South-East: Monash University 4 (MF Micallef 3 JP Gibson) Knox Utd 1 (AE Mckillen), Mooroolbark 1 (A D'Ortenzio) Bentleigh Greens 0, Southern Suburbs 0 South Springvale 1 (M Capelja), Sandringham 4 (L Kapusta A Landolfo AL Dracup 2) Beaumaris 1 (T Kiddle), Berwick City 1 (J Cary) Ashburton 1 (PM Loveland)

Div 3 North-West: Sunshine Georgies 3 (J Ghirxi D Gvozdic Own Goal) Epping City 0, Western Suburbs 4 (A Gialamatzis D Tzivanidis R McConnell AM Loizou) Maribyrnong Greens 1 (M Huremovic), West Preston 2 (T De Melo 2) Maribyrnong Utd 1 (C Sanhueza), Westvale 0 Western Eagles 8 (M Maltaric 3 B Kean 2 M Kyriakou 3), Diamond Valley Utd 1 (B Prestigiacomo) Melbourne Tornado 2 (N Lampard)

Div 3 South-East: Ashburton 4 (AK Garnett 2 W Lopez 2) Knox City 0, Albert Park WSC 2 (TL Colvin AM Dundon) Endeavour Utd 1 (K Fernandes), South Melbourne 0 Mornington Flames 2 (S Wells D Curtois), Richmond 3 (E Meallin 2 N Meredith) Sandringham 2,

WOMENS METROPOLITAN LEAGUE: North-West: Kyneton District 2 Fitzroy City 7, DOC United WFC 9 Mitchell Rangers 1, Cairnlea WSC 10 Uni. of Melbourne 0, Brunswick Zebras 2 (C Michal R Staples) Old Carey 2, FC Bulleen Lions 0 Brunswick City 0

South-East: Swinburne University WSC 3 Sandringham 1, Monash University 2 Croydon City Arrows 0, Albert Park WSC 1 Brighton 2, Ringwood City 2 Endeavour Hills 3,

MENS THIRDS: Metro North-West: Altona East Phoenix 7 Clifton Hill 0, Werribee City 7 Reservoir Stars 0

Metro South-East: Nova FC 2 South Yarra 4, Melbourne University Rangers 2 Scotch Old Boys 0, Old Trinity Grammarians 0 Monash University 7, Sandringham City 3 Central Park AC Malvern 5

Central: North Caulfield 0 South Yarra 5, Monash University 0 Boroondara Eagles 1, La Trobe University 8 Waverley Wanderers 0, Nunawading City 2 Ashburton 0

North: Brunswick City 0 Moreland City 1, Plenty Valley Lions 0 Melton 3, Uni. of Melbourne 2 La Trobe University 7

North-West: Cairnlea 4 Hoppers Crossing 2, Melbourne University Rangers 3 La Trobe University 0, Upfield 2 Keilor Park 2

South: Monash University 0 Boroondara Eagles 4, Southern Suburbs 1 Doveton 0, Beaumaris 2 Dandenong Thunder 2, Waverley Wanderers 2 Sandringham City 3

South-East: Marcellin Eagles SC 5 Caulfield Grammarians 1, Scotch Old Boys 3 Mooroolbark 3, Old Trinity Grammarians 0 Cleeland Utd 2, Brighton 5 Eltham North 0

MENS MASTERS: Metro: Sunshine Blues 2 Bundoora Utd 4, Watsonia Heights 4 Whittlesea Utd 1, Avondale Heights 0 Moreland City 2

South-East: Southern Suburbs 6 Doveton 2, Endeavour Hills 3 Glen Waverley 3, Brighton 4 Doncaster Rovers 5

Central: DOC United FC 3 Eastern Lions 2, Ashburton 0 South Yarra 5, Uni. of Melbourne 0 North Caulfield 4

Mens Metropolitan League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Upfield	15	12	3	0	52	18	39
Meadow Park	15	9	4	2	40	21	31
Reservoir Strikers	15	9	2	4	42	24	29
East Bentleigh	15	7	1	7	24	20	22
Ringwood City	14	7	2	5	28	16	20
Broadmeadows Utd	14	4	5	5	20	28	17
Darebin Legends	15	4	4	7	30	33	16
Glen Waverley	15	4	3	8	24	38	15
St. Kevins	15	2	5	8	26	55	11
Caulfield Grammari	15	1	1	13	10	43	4

Mens Metropolitan League Reserves

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Upfield	14	12	1	1	51	15	37
East Bentleigh	14	11	1	2	48	16	34
Darebin Legends	15	10	3	2	43	15	33
Reservoir Strikers	15	7	4	4	26	21	25
Meadow Park	15	5	4	6	19	22	19
Ringwood City	14	6	2	6	27	28	17
Glen Waverley	15	3	3	9	17	39	12
Caulfield Grammarian	15	2	4	9	16	38	10
Broadmeadows Utd	14	2	2	10	15	41	8
St. Kevins	15	1	4	10	21	48	7

Womens State League Div 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Uni. of Melbourne	10	6	4	0	24	8	22
Bayswater Strikers	11	5	5	1	17	10	20
GRFA	10	4	4	2	15	13	16
Whitehorse Utd	11	3	4	4	15	14	13
Monbulk	10	3	3	4	19	24	12
Ballarat Strikers	10	3	2	5	16	17	11
South Yarra	11	3	2	6	21	29	11
Brighton	11	2	4	5	18	23	10
Whittlesea Zebras	10	2	4	4	9	16	10

Womens State League Div 1 Reserves

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Uni. of Melbourne	10	8	1	1	33	8	25
Whitehorse Utd	11	7	3	1	26	14	24
Brighton	11	5	1	5	26	21	16
Whittlesea Zebras	10	5	1	4	19	19	16
Bayswater Strikers	11	5	0	6	15	22	15
Monbulk	9	4	1	4	15	17	13
GRFA	9	3	2	4	16	17	11
South Yarra	11	1	3	7	6	26	6
Ballarat Strikers	10	1	2	7	9	21	5

Womens State League Div 2 North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Altona City	11	10	1	0	53	8	31
Bundoora Utd	11	10	0	1	59	15	30
La Trobe University	12	6	1	5	23	19	19
Melton	12	6	1	5	12	13	19
Port Melbourne	11	6	0	5	24	23	18
North Geelong	11	5	2	4	20	18	17
Fawkner Blues	12	5	1	6	26	40	16
Melbourne Bears	11	4	0	7	15	30	12
Darebin Falcons	11	1	2	8	13	25	5
Brunswick Zebras	12	0	0	12	6	60	0

Womens State League Div 2 South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Springvale	12	12	0	0	37	7	36
Monash University	12	7	4	1	28	13	25
Berwick City	12	7	1	4	26	20	22
Knox Utd	12	6	1	5	36	25	19
Ashburton	12	5	3	4	25	26	18
Sandringham	12	4	4	4	21	20	16
Mooroolbark	12	3	2	7	11	25	11
Beaumaris	12	2	3	7	10	26	9
Southern Suburbs	12	2	1	9	16	25	7
Bentleigh Greens	12	2	1	9	8	31	7

Womens State League Div 3 North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Western Eagles	12	12	0	0	66	5	36
West Preston	12	8	1	3	39	14	25
Western Suburbs	10	7	1	2	29	8	22
Sunshine Georgies	11	5	3	3	27	20	18
Melbourne Tornado	11	5	0	6	17	17	15
Diamond Valley Utd	11	4	3	4	16	19	15
Epping City	12	3	3	6	12	20	12
Maribyrnong Utd	11	3	2	6	15	30	11
Maribyrnong Greens	12	3	1	8	13	29	10
Westvale	12	0	0	12	5	77	0

Womens State League Div 3 South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Albert Park WSC	11	10	0	1	20	7	30
Mornington Flames	12	9	1	2	33	9	28
Noble Park	10	7	2	1	30	6	23
Endeavour Utd	11	7	1	3	32	16	22
Doncaster Rovers	10	7	0	3	43	10	21
Richmond	11	5	0	6	9	28	15
Sandringham	12	4	1	7	15	24	13
Ashburton	11	2	2	7	16	30	8
South Melbourne	12	1	1	10	10	37	4
Knox City	12	0	0	12	4	45	0

Womens Metropolitan League North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
FC Bulleen Lions	12	10	2	0	69	9	32
Old Carey	10	8	1	1	47	14	25
Kyneton District	12	7	1	4	27	21	22
Cairnlea WSC	11	6	1	4	53	24	19
DOC United WFC	10	5	1	4	39	24	16
Brunswick Zebras	12	5	1	6	29	29	16
Brunswick City	11	4	2	5	27	26	14
Fitzroy City	11	3	0	8	29	40	9
Uni. of Melbourne	11	2	1	8	16	58	7
Mitchell Rangers	12	1	0	11	10	101	3

Womens Metropolitan League South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Endeavour Hills	12	9	2	1	50	12	29
North Caulfield	10	8	2	0	26	4	26
Ringwood City	12	7	3	2	46	15	24
East Bentleigh	11	5	4	2	30	25	19
Brighton	12	5	3	4	21	21	18
Monash University	11	5	2	4	19	15	17
Croydon City Arrows	12	4	2	6	21	21	14
Swinburne University	12	2	2	8	10	35	8
Sandringham	12	1	3	8	11	41	6
Albert Park WSC	12	0	1	11	5	50	1

Mens Thirds Metro North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Werribee City	11	8	2	1	38	16	26
Altona East Phoenix	10	7	2	1	40	14	23
St. Kevins	9	4	2	3	19	19	14
Clifton Hill	10	4	1	5	19	23	13
Reservoir Stars	11	3	2	6	24	34	11
Collingwood City	10	2	4	4	23	26	10
Old Melburnians	10	2	3	5	16	24	9
Uni. of Melbourne	10	2	3	5	16	32	9
Fawkner Blues	9	1	5	3	17	24	8
Melbourne Lions	0				0	0	-3

Mens Thirds Metro South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Bayside Argonauts	11	8	3	0	54	11	27
Melbourne University	12	8	1	3	29	11	25
South Yarra	12	7	2	3	30	19	23
Old Melburnians	11	6	2	3	30	18	20
Monash University	11	6	1	4	37	18	19
Old Camberwell Gra	10	6	1	3	35	17	19
Riversdale	11	5	3	3	26	16	18
Central Park AC Malv	12	5	3	4	34	28	18
Sandringham City	11	4	0	7	23	31	12
Old Trinity Gram	11	2	0	9	15	61	6
Nova FC	12	2	0	10	14	62	6
Scotch Old Boys	12	1	0	11	9	44	3

Mens Thirds Central

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Yarra	12	10	1	1	66	7	31
La Trobe University	12	7	5	0	41	10	26
Juventus Old Boys	11	7	4	0	39	17	25
Boroondara Eagles	12	7	1	4	29	34	22
Nunawading City	12	5	4	3	28	20	19
North Caulfield	11	3	2	6	24	26	11
Central Park Rangers	10	3	2	5	14	28	11
Monash University	12	3	1	8	13	22	10
Ashburton	12	3	0	9	16	48	9
Waverley Wanderers	12	0	0	12	5	63	0

Mens Thirds North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
La Trobe University	10	10	0	0	43	7	30
Plenty Valley Lions	10	6	1	3	22	18	19
DOC United FC	11	4	5	2	30	18	17
Brunswick City	11	5	1	5	28	24	16
Moreland City	11	4	2	5	12	16	14
Uni. of Melbourne	12	4	2	6	16	28	14
Watsonia Heights	11	4	1	6	26	35	13
Melbourne Lions	10	3	2	5	21	20	8
Fawkner Blues	8	2	1	5	10	25	7
Melton	10	2	1	7	14	31	7

Mens Thirds North-West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Cairnlea	11	8	2	1	35	16	26
La Trobe University	12	7	4	1	25	18	25
Mitchell Rangers	10	5	2	3	14	12	17
Melbourne University	12	4	4	4	13	12	16
Essendon Utd	11	4	4	3	24	25	16
Upfield	12	4	3	5	27	24	15
Keilor Park	12	3	5	4	20	22	14
Brimbank	11	2	6	3	17	18	12
Hoppers Crossing	12	2	3	7	20	28	9
Greenvale United SC	9	0	1	8	9	29	1

Mens Thirds South

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Doveton	12	9	2	1	45	5	29
Boroondara Eagles	12	6	5	1	28	17	23
Southern Suburbs	11	6	4	1	18	7	22
Dandenong Thunder	12	6	2	4	47	39	20
Berwick City	11	5	1	5	22	17	16
Sandringham City	12	4	3	5	16	24	15
Monash University	12	4	3	5	21	35	15
Bayside Argonauts	10	2	3	5	9	24	9
Waverley Wanderers	12	1	3	8	11	34	6
Beaumaris	12	0	4	8	12	27	4

Mens Thirds South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Cleeland Utd	11	9	1	1	60	8	28
Marcellin Eagles SC	11	7	2	2	51	16	23
Boroondara Eagles	11	6	2	3	33	21	20
Scotch Old Boys	12	5	4	3	45	20	19
Mooroolbark	12	6	1	5	33	38	19
Caulfield Grammarians	12	5	2	5	25	23	17
Old Trinity Grammari	12	5	1	6	25	34	16
Brighton	12	4	0	8	20	48	12
Eltham North	11	2	0	9	11	65	6
Old Carey	10	1	1	8	10	40	4

Mens Masters Metro

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Bundoora Utd	`11	9	0	2	57	21	27
Moreland City	10	8	2	0	48	12	26
Sunshine Blues	11	6	1	4	35	23	19
Heidelberg Utd	10	6	0	4	31	21	18
Whittlesea Utd	11	5	2	4	37	29	17
Watsonia Heights	11	2	0	9	18	37	6
Avondale Heights	10	1	1	8	12	43	4
Mill Park	6	0	0	6	5	57	0

Mens Masters South-East

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Southern Suburbs	8	8	0	0	27	6	24
Beaumaris Masters	10	7	1	2	29	13	22
Mooroolbark	10	7	0	3	33	18	21
Endeavour Hills	11	6	2	3	34	18	20
Juventus Old Boys	8	6	0	2	27	9	18
Doncaster Rovers	10	3	2	5	29	34	11
Glen Waverley	11	1	3	7	16	30	6
Brighton	11	2	0	9	22	39	6
Doveton	11	0	2	9	7	57	2

Mens Masters Central

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Yarra	10	9	1	0	45	8	28
Eastern Lions	9	5	2	2	34	14	17
DOC United FC	8	5	2	1	26	14	17
Whitehorse Utd	10	4	2	4	25	28	14
North Caulfield	10	3	1	6	18	25	10
Ashburton	9	1	1	7	9	35	4
Uni. of Melbourne	10	1	1	8	13	46	4
Collingwood City	0				0	0	0

Boys 18 Super League: Essendon Royals 6 Keilor Park 0, South Melbourne 6 Brimbank City 0, Springvale White Eagles 4 South Springvale 0, Kingston City 1 FC Bulleen Lions 0, Brunswick City 5 Casey Comets 1, Green Gully Fawkner

Boys S/E 16 Super League: Box Hill Inter 0 Oakleigh 4, Chelsea Berwick City , South Melbourne 1 FC Bulleen Lions 1, Endeavour Utd 0 Doncaster Rovers 0, Springvale White Eagles 2 Eastern Lions 2

Boys S/E 15 Super League: Bye Mornington , Dandenong Thunder 1 North Caulfield 2, Dandenong City 2 Berwick City 0, Oakleigh 0 FC Bulleen Lions 2, Nunawading City Monash City

Boys S/E 14 Super League: Beaumaris 5 Box Hill Inter 1, Richmond 1 Oakleigh 0, Peninsula Strikers JFC 0 FC Bulleen Lions 3, GSL Sandringham City , South Melbourne 0 Monash City 0

Boys S/E 13 Super League: South Melbourne 7 Box Hill Inter 0, Croydon City Arrows 2 Berwick City 1, Brighton 0 FC Bulleen Lions 6, GSL Sandringham City

Boys N/W 16 Super League: Melbourne Knights 3 Fawkner 4, Coburg Utd Bye , Sunshine Georgies 2 Hume Utd 3, Green Gully Keilor Park , Cairnlea 2 Preston Lions 3

Boys N/W 15 Super League: Bye Essendon Royals , Melbourne Knights 1 Fawkner 2, Preston Lions 3 Sunshine Heights 0, Green Gully Keilor Park , Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 1 Altona Magic 0

Boys N/W 14 Super League: Hume Utd Essendon Royals , Whittlesea Zebras 0 Melbourne Knights 2, Coburg Utd 2 Brimbank 4, Green Gully Keilor Park , Cairnlea 0 Brunswick City 2

Boys N/W 13 Super League: Melbourne Knights Bundoora Utd , Essendon Royals 1 Brunswick Zebras 1, Altona City 1 North City Lions 2, Green Gully Keilor Park , GRFA 2 Light Utd 1

Boys Metro 18 Blue: Doncaster Rovers 0 Altona City 5, Altona East 1 Doncaster Rovers 4, Frankston Pines 5 Stonnington City 1, Manningham 3 Knox City 0, Altona City 5 Eastern Lions 0, Cairnlea 0 Richmond 3

Boys Metro 18 Orange: Beaumaris 1 Doveton 4, Mornington 6 Keysborough 1, Brighton 1 Berwick City 0, Sandringham City 3 Endeavour Utd 2, Langwarrin 7 Baxter 2

Boys Metro 18 Purple: Altona Magic Preston Lions , DOC United FC 0 Richmond 7, Sunshine Georgies 2 Bentleigh Greens 1, Westgate Heidelberg Utd , Oakleigh Whittlesea Zebras

Boys Metro 18 Red: Ballarat & District SA 5 Essendon Royals 4, Lalor Utd Western Eagles , Melbourne Phoenix JFC Northcote City , Light Utd 6 Brunswick Zebras 1, Bundoora Utd 7 Westvale 3

Boys Metro 18 Yellow: Brandon Park 5 Mooroolbark 2, Ashburton 1 North Caulfield 5, Darebin Legends East Bentleigh , Manningham 5 Sherbrooke Rangers 1, Doncaster Rovers 2 Boroondara Lions 1

Boys South 16 A: Chelsea 3 Southern Stars 1, Dandenong City 8 Berwick City 1, Brighton 3 Mornington 1, Langwarrin 0 Sandringham City 2

Boys South 16 B: Bentleigh Greens 3 Brighton 3, Bye Beaumaris , Baxter 5 Langwarrin 1, Casey Comets Doveton

Boys South 15 A: Bye Beaumaris , Brighton 2 Berwick City 0, Chelsea 4 Casey Comets 0, East Bentleigh Springvale White Eagles , Langwarrin 1 Doveton 0

Boys South 15 B: Berwick City Bye , Seaford Utd 1 Peninsula Strikers JFC 12, Carrum Utd 0 Langwarrin 1, Brighton 1 Sandringham City 0

Boys South 15 C: Doveton Bye , Sandringham City 1 Beaumaris 1, Brighton 2 Phillip Island 4, Endeavour Utd 2 Baxter 1 1, Baxter 2 4 East Bentleigh 1

Boys South 14 A: Hampton Park Utd 1 Beaumaris 0, Brighton Berwick City , Hampton 1 Mornington 1, Bentleigh Greens 0 Harrisfield Hurricanes 1, Chelsea 5 Keysborough 1

Boys South 14 B: Sandringham City 2 Langwarrin 1, Brighton 1 Berwick City 0, Hampton 0 Bentleigh Greens 4, Endeavour Utd 6 Baxter 0, Mornington 0 Chelsea 0

Boys South 14 C: Sandringham City Bye , Hampton Park Utd 0 East Bentleigh 6, Brighton 1 Casey Comets 4, Seaford Utd 4 Langwarrin 1, Peninsula Strikers JFC 0 Rosebud 4

Boys South 13 A: Keysborough Bye , Hampton 1 Hampton Park Utd 3, Endeavour Utd 0 Berwick City 0, Dandenong City 0 Dandenong Thunder 1, Mornington 3 Langwarrin 2

Boys South 13 B: Baxter 1 Mornington 4, Sandringham City Doveton , Brighton 0 East Bentleigh 6, Beaumaris 1 Bentleigh Greens 3

Boys South 13 C: Mornington 0 Springvale White Eagles 4, Carrum Utd 2 Brighton 1, Beaumaris 1 Casey Comets 4, Peninsula Strikers JFC 4 Rosebud 0

Boys South 13 D: Lyndale Utd 3 Peninsula Strikers JFC 3, Brighton 2 Frankston Pines 0, Langwarrin 0 Endeavour Utd 1, Berwick City 1 East Bentleigh 0

Boys South 12 A: Langwarrin Peninsula Strikers JFC , Brighton 3 Berwick City 0, Hampton 0 Mornington 2, GSL 0 Sandringham City 0, Bentleigh Greens 1 South Eastern Piranhas 6

Boys South 12 B: Sandringham City 2 Melbourne Phoenix JFC 3, Seaford Utd 0 Berwick City 4, Bentleigh Greens 0 Southern Stars 2, Casey Comets 2 Langwarrin 0, Hampton Park Utd 0 Beaumaris 2

Boys South 12 C: Hampton Bye , Sandringham City 2 Langwarrin 0, Brighton 3 Hampton Park Utd 0, Doveton 7 East Bentleigh 0, Mornington 0 Beaumaris 4

Boys South 12 D: Lyndale Utd 2 Carrum Utd 1, Brighton 3 East Bentleigh 4, Berwick City 1 Dandenong Thunder 3, Beaumaris 0 Doveton 1, Baxter 0 Keysborough 3

Boys South 12 E: Casey Panthers 2 Beaumaris 1, Brighton 2 Baxter (Western Port) 5, Seaford Utd 0 Rosebud 2, Peninsula Strikers JFC 0 Harrisfield Hurricanes 2, Casey Comets 3 Sandringham City 0

Boys South 11 Kangaroos Green: Bye Peninsula Strikers JFC , Bentleigh Greens 0 Brighton 1, Beaumaris 3 Endeavour Utd 0, Dandenong City 6 Kingston City 0, Mornington 2 South Eastern Piranhas 0

Boys South 11 Kangaroos Red:

Boys South 11 Kangaroos Yellow: GSL 1 Southern Stars 0, Langwarrin 3 Berwick City 0, Springvale White Eagles 7 Sandringham City 0, Brandon Park 1 Hampton 1, Aspendale 5 Chelsea 1

Boys South 11 Kangaroos/Joeys Red: Beaumaris 3 Brighton 2 0, Sandringham City 0 Mornington 4, Brighton 1 5 Hampton 0, Aspendale 2 Keysborough 1

Boys South 11 Joeys Blue: Carrum Utd 1 Berwick City 0, Sandringham City 0 Beaumaris 2, Brighton 1 Baxter 2, Hampton Park Utd 2 Peninsula Strikers JFC 0

Boys South 11 Joeys Orange: Seaford Utd 1 Casey Comets 6, Doveton 1 Beaumaris 0, Brighton 1 Bentleigh Greens 1, Mornington 0 Berwick City 0

Boys East 16 A: Sherbrooke Rangers 1 Nunawading City 2, Richmond 1 Oakleigh 2, Doncaster Rovers 0 FC Bulleen Lions 1, Clayton 0 Manningham 1, Riversdale 4 Whitehorse 0

Boys East 16 B: Knox City 1 North Caulfield 6, Casey Comets 2 Hampton Park Utd 1, Boronia 1 Manningham 1, Caulfield Utd 1 Glen Waverley 3

Boys East 16 C: Ashburton 2 Eastern Lions 1, Mooroolbark 5 South Springvale 1, Glen Eira Hampton , Clayton 3 Mooroolbark 2, Croydon City Arrows 0 Whitehorse 6

Boys East 15 A: South Melbourne 3 Glen Waverley 0, Richmond 3 Eastern Lions 0, Doncaster Rovers 4 Manningham 1, Clayton 0 Boronia 7, FC Bulleen Lions 1 Brandon Park 2

Boys East 15 B: Sherbrooke Rangers 0 North Caulfield 2, Caulfield Utd 0 Oakleigh 3, Boronia 2 FC Bulleen Lions 0, Doncaster Rovers 1 Richmond 6, Manningham 2 Riversdale 2

Boys East 15 C: Ringwood City Bye , Brandon Park 7 North Caulfield 1, Ashburton 1 6 Boroondara Lions 1, Glen Waverley 0 Ashburton 2 1, Mooroolbark 1 Whitehorse 4

Boys East 15 D:

Boys East 14 A: Knox City 8 North Caulfield 0, Glen Waverley 3 Casey Comets 0, Doncaster Rovers 2 Manningham 1, Waverley Wanderers Brandon Park , FC Bulleen Lions 0 Whitehorse 2

Boys East 14 B: Knox City 4 North Caulfield 0, Doncaster Rovers Riversdale , Ringwood City 3 Noble Park 1, Eastern Lions Glen Waverley , Croydon City Arrows 0 Stonnington City 0

Boys East 14 C: Boronia 6 Caulfield Utd 0, Melbourne Phoenix JFC 3 Richmond 0, Mooroolbark 1 Whitehorse 3, Heidelberg Utd Doncaster Rovers

Boys East 14 D: Boroondara Lions Bye , Glen Eira East Bentleigh , Richmond 3 Riversdale 1, Ringwood City 10 Croydon City Arrows 0, Nunawading City Stonnington City

Boys East 13 A: Nunawading City 0 Richmond 6, Glen Waverley 0 North Caulfield 0, Boronia 0 Oakleigh 5, Riversdale 2 Mooroolbark 2, South Melbourne 1 Doncaster Rovers 0

Boys East 13 B: Avondale Heights Bye , Richmond 0 FC Bulleen Lions 0, Ashburton 0 Knox City 2, Clayton 4 Glen Eira 1

Boys East 13 C: Sherbrooke Rangers 2 North Caulfield 0, Caulfield Utd 6 Springvale City 1, Ringwood City 0 Manningham 3, Boroondara Lions 4 Boronia 0, FC Bulleen Lions 3 Brunswick City 1

Boys East 13 D: Riversdale 1 Glen Eira 3, Knox Utd 11 Ashburton 0, Clifton Hill 0 Brandon Park 3, Eastern Lions 0 Richmond 0, Monash City 6 Glen Waverley 2

Boys East 13 E: Oakleigh 0 Manningham 0, Chelsea 0 Croydon City Arrows 0, Knox Utd 0 Waverley Wanderers 2, Mooroolbark 0 Ringwood City 3

Boys East 13 F: North Caulfield 0 South Springvale 0, Heidelberg Stars 11 Eastern Lions 0, Richmond 3 Stonnington City 1, Rowville Eagles 1 Whitehorse 5

Boys East 12 A: Box Hill Inter 2 North Caulfield 0, Knox City 2 Oakleigh 1, South Melbourne 3 FC Bulleen Lions 1, Monash City 2 Richmond 3, Ashburton 0 Riversdale 5

Boys East 12 B: Springvale City Bye , Richmond 5 Glen Waverley 1, Oakleigh 1 Manningham 2, Clayton 0 Doncaster Rovers 4, FC Bulleen Lions 2 Box Hill Inter 3

Boys East 12 C: Sherbrooke Rangers 0 North Caulfield 2, South Springvale 5 Glen Waverley 0, Glen Eira 2 FC Bulleen Lions 2, Mooroolbark 0 Richmond 7, Doncaster Rovers 4 Lalor 1

Boys East 12 D: Eastern Lions 1 Croydon City Arrows 1, Ashburton 0 Nunawading City 1, Boronia 1 Riversdale 0, Avondale Heights 4 Boroondara Lions 1

Boys East 12 E: Ringwood City Bye ,

Results & Ladders

Eastern Lions North Caulfield , Richmond 2 Doncaster Rovers 0, Boroondara Lions 13 Ashburton 0, Croydon City Arrows 2 Whitehorse 2

Boys East 12 F: Ashburton Bye , Clifton Hill Croydon City Arrows , Knox City 5 Boronia 0, Doncaster Rovers 0 Glen Waverley 4

Boys East 11 Kangaroos Green: Caulfield Utd 0 Oakleigh 4, Box Hill Inter FC Bulleen Lions , Ashburton 0 Richmond 1, Croydon City Arrows 1 Doncaster Rovers 3

Boys East 11 Kangaroos Orange: Whitehorse Bye , Mooroolbark 0 North Caulfield 1, Hampton 8 Richmond 0, Oakleigh 1 Knox Utd 2, South Melbourne 3 Riversdale 0

Boys East 11 Kangaroos Yellow: Eastern Lions 0 Monash City 3, Doncaster Rovers 0 South Yarra 0, Stonnington City 0 Manningham 0, Boroondara Lions 0 Ashburton 2, FC Bulleen Lions 0 Box Hill Inter 1

Boys East 11 Joeys Blue: Sherbrooke Rangers 3 Boronia 0, Richmond 1 Croydon City Arrows 0, East Bentleigh FC Bulleen Lions , Doncaster Rovers 4 Glen Waverley 0, Knox Utd 2 Whitehorse 0

Boys East 11 Joeys Orange: Ringwood City Bye , Sherbrooke Rangers 3 North Caulfield 0, Knox City 5 Mooroolbark 0, Waverley Wanderers 4 Richmond 1, Riversdale Whitehorse

Boys East 11 Joeys Red: Knox City 3 North Caulfield 0, Glen Waverley 4 Ashburton 0, Oakleigh 0 East Bentleigh 0, Boroondara Lions 0 Richmond 0, Whitehorse 3 Doncaster Rovers 0

Boys North 16 A: Bye Bundoora Utd , Coburg Utd Moreland Utd , Whittlesea Zebras 3 Epping City 1, Northcote City 0 Essendon Royals 2, Brunswick Zebras Heidelberg Stars

Boys North 16 B: Watsonia Heights 3 Moreland Wolves 1, Mitchell Rangers Bundoora Utd , Essendon Utd 5 Sunbury Utd 0, DOC United FC 1 Hume Utd 0, Brunswick Zebras Light Utd

Boys North 15 A: Epping City 2 Bundoora Utd 2, Brunswick Zebras Moreland City , Light Utd 0 Fawkner 8, Lalor Utd Essendon Royals , Whittlesea Zebras 10 Heidelberg Utd 0

Boys North 15 B: Diamond Valley Utd 4 Heidelberg Stars 1, Watsonia Heights 2 Epping City 3, Northcote City 3 Moreland Utd 1, Moreland City 1 Brunswick City 4, Plenty Valley Lions 0 Bundoora Utd 6

Boys North 14 A: Light Utd 1 Bundoora Utd 0, Greenvale Utd 1 Preston Lions 1, Clifton Hill 1 Fawkner 5, Epping City 3 Sunbury Utd 2, Eltham North 0 Essendon Royals 3

Boys North 14 B: Watsonia Heights 5 Whittlesea Zebras 2, Moreland City 0 Meadow Park 0, Northcote City 1 Banyule City 0, Bundoora Utd 4 Fawkner 0, Brunswick Zebras Epping City

Boys North 14 C: Coburg Utd Moreland Wolves , Brunswick Zebras Alphington , North City Lions Eltham North , FC City Central 8 Banyule City 0, Bye Essendon Royals

Boys North 13 A: Diamond Valley Utd Bye , Epping City 2 Essendon Royals 1, Preston Lions 0 North City Lions 0, Moreland City 0 Brunswick City 1, Reservoir Strikers 0 Whittlesea Zebras 9

Boys North 13 B: Watsonia Heights 0 Hume Utd 3, Lalor Utd Clifton Hill , Brunswick Zebras Fawkner , Eltham North 3 Essendon Utd 0, Alphington 2 Epping City 1

Boys North 13 C:

Boys North 12 A: Coburg Utd 10 Bundoora Utd 0, Brunswick City 2 Eltham North 0, Meadow Park 1 Epping City 1, Light Utd 1 Essendon Royals 1, Whittlesea Zebras 3 Hume Utd 1

Boys North 12 B: Fawkner Bye , Greenvale Utd 5 Coburg Utd 0, Northcote City 1 Brunswick Zebras 2, Moreland Wolves 1 Light Utd 1, Preston Lions 0 Moreland City 4

Boys North 12 C: Watsonia Heights 0 Hume Utd 4, Sunbury Utd 0 Moreland Utd 9, Heidelberg Utd Banyule City , Diamond Valley Utd 4 Essendon Royals 0, Alphington 3 Epping City 0

Boys North 12 D: Pascoe Vale DOC United FC , Eltham North 1 North Lions 4, Broadmeadows Utd North City Lions , Bundoora Utd 2 Mitchell Rangers 0, Brunswick Zebras Plenty Valley Lions

Boys North 11 Kangaroos Orange:

Boys North 11 Kangaroos Yellow: Diamond Valley Utd 0 Epping City 0, Brunswick Zebras Fawkner , Sunbury Utd 2 Lalor Utd 1, Bundoora Utd 1 Brunswick City 1, Heidelberg Stars 4 Meadow Park 0

Boys North 11 Joeys Blue: Bye Bundoora Utd , Fawkner 0 Moreland Utd 0, Northcote City 12 Banyule City 0, Moreland City 2 Mitchell Rangers 2, Avondale Heights Light Utd

Boys North 11 Joeys/Kangaroos Orange: Alphington 2 0 Essendon Royals 2 6, Yarraville Alphington 1 , Eltham North 1 2 Heidelberg Utd 1, Essendon Royals 1 15 Eltham North 2 0, Greenvale Utd 8 Watsonia Heights 0

Boys North 11 Joeys/Kangaroos Red: Watsonia Heights 2 Upfield 1, Plenty Valley Lions 1 North City Lions 0, Moreland Wolves 1 Brunswick Zebras 2, St. Albans Saints 1 Hume Utd 0, Whittlesea Zebras 5 Clifton Hill 0

Boys West 16 A: Hoppers Crossing Bye , Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 3 Williamstown 2, Keilor Park 6 Sunbury Utd 0, Gisborne 0 Laverton Park 1, Green Gully South Yarra

Boys West 16 B: Melton Bye , Werribee City 3 Brimbank 5, Western Eagles 1 Altona City 2, Reservoir Strikers 2 Sydenham Park 0, Altona East 3 South Yarra 0

Boys West 15 A: Werribee City Bye , Geelong 1 Altona East 3, Keilor Park 1 Sunshine Georgies 6, Green Gully Brimbank City , GRFA 4 Sydenham Park 1

Boys West 15 B North/West: Bacchus Marsh JSC Port Melbourne , Williamstown 13 Carlton Youth 0, Altona City 0 Keilor Wolves 6, Hoppers Crossing 15 Lalor Utd 0

Boys West 15 B:

Boys West 14 A: Sunshine Georgies 8 St. Albans 1, Hoppers Crossing 0 North Geelong Warriors 3, Altona East 1 Sunshine Heights 0, Werribee City 6 South Yarra 1, GRFA Sydenham Park

Boys West 14 B: Green Gully Bye , North Sunshine Eagles 1 Brimbank 2, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 10 Western Eagles 2, Keilor Park 1 Melton 0

Boys West 14 C North/West: Gisborne 2 Williamstown 2, Melton 2 Sunbury Utd 1, Yarraville Hoppers Crossing , Wyndham Olympic 2 Preston Lions 2, Avondale Heights 1 DOC United FC 0

Boys West 13 A: Geelong 0 Gisborne 2, Keilor Park 0 Altona City 2, Williamstown 0 BASL 1, Green Gully Laverton Park , Cairnlea 3 Sunshine Georgies 6

Boys West 13 B: Melton 2 Brimbank 0, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 3 Sydenham Park 3, Werribee City 0 Maribyrnong Greens 2, Williamstown 5 Spring Hills 3, Hoppers Crossing 0 Brimbank City 1

Boys West 13 C: AVA Seagulls 5 Bacchus Marsh JSC 2, Upfield 6 Brunswick Zebras 1, Port Melbourne 2 Bundoora Utd 5, Maribyrnong United 3 FC Birarrung JFC 2, Wyndham Olympic 5 Mitchell Rangers 2, Melbourne Lions Flemington Eagles

Boys West 12 A: Melbourne Knights 1 Sunshine Georgies 0, South Yarra 1 Williamstown 1, Altona City 2 Gisborne 1, Green Gully Keilor Park , GRFA 3 Hoppers Crossing 0

Boys West 12 B: Melbourne Knights 2 Melton 0, Keilor Park 1 Brimbank 3, Sydenham Park Altona Magic , Green Gully South Yarra , Cairnlea 6 St. Albans 0

Boys West 12 C: Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 7 Altona City 0, Laverton Park Brimbank , Cairnlea 1 Keilor Wolves 1, Spring Hills 6 Hoppers Crossing 0, Wyndham Olympic 8 Gisborne 0, Williamstown Flemington Eagles

Boys West 11 Kangaroos Green: Melbourne Knights 8 Sunshine Georgies 0, South Yarra 5 Williamstown 0, Werribee City 4 Altona East 0, Green Gully Keilor Park , Hoppers Crossing Altona City

Boys West 11 Joeys Red: Spring Hills 1 Green Gully 3, Laverton Park 0 Port Melbourne 1, Werribee City 1 Hoppers Crossing 4, Gisborne 5 Bacchus Marsh JSC 1, Cairnlea 0 Altona City 1

Boys West 11 Joeys/Kangaroos Blue: Western Eagles 1 Sydenham Park 2, Keilor Park 0 Sunshine Heights 1, Westvale 1 Maribyrnong Greens 1, Green Gully Brimbank City , Williamstown Brimbank

Girls Metro 18 A: Bye Ashburton , Gisborne 1 Brimbank 2, Berwick City 3 Westgate 0, Mooroolbark 1 Whitehorse 0, Langwarrin 9 Croydon City Arrows 0, Beaumaris 3 Boroondara Eagles JFC 2

Girls Metro 16 A: GRFA Keilor Park , Berwick City 2 Richmond 2, Meadow Park Whitehorse , Brandon Park 6 Langwarrin 0, Brunswick Zebras Brighton

Girls Metro 16 B: Brunswick City 3 Ringwood City 0, Keilor Wolves 1 Doncaster Rovers 2, Diamond Valley Utd 1 Glen Eira 0, Baxter 3 Boroondara Lions 0, Glen Waverley 7 Sandringham City 0

Girls N/W 16 C: Greenvale Utd 3 Nunawading City 2, Sydenham Park Altona City , Gisborne North City Lions , Pascoe Vale Sunbury Utd , Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 7 Watsonia Heights 0

Girls S/E 16 C: Mooroolbark 8 Seaford Utd 0, Sherbrooke Rangers 2 0 Endeavour Utd 7, East Bentleigh Boronia , Hampton Park Utd 1 Mornington 1, FC Bulleen Lions 3 Sherbrooke Rangers 1 1

Girls Metro 15 A: Doncaster Rovers 12 Hoppers Crossing 0, Brunswick Zebras Dandenong Thunder , Bundoora Utd 3 Croydon City Arrows 1, Sandringham City 6 Brighton 0

Girls Metro 15 B: Casey Comets 1 Caulfield Utd 0, Richmond 2 Eltham North 0, East Bentleigh Baxter , Carrum Utd 5 Langwarrin 0, Peninsula Strikers JFC Altona City

Girls Metro 15 C: Glen Waverley 3 Brighton 4, Chelsea 0 Watsonia Heights 3, Whittlesea Zebras 3 Eastern Lions 0, Croydon City Arrows 2 Dandenong City 1, Beaumaris 0 Sandringham City 3

Girls N/W 15 D: Altona East Bye , Brunswick Zebras Cairnlea , Brimbank 6 Epping City 1, Keilor Park Bundoora Utd

Girls S/E 15 D: Bye Glen Eira , Carrum Utd Heatherton Utd , Springvale White Eagles 2 Noble Park 1, Richmond 1 Knox City 3, North Caulfield Boroondara Lions

Girls Metro 14 A: Croydon City Arrows 1 Ashburton 8, Sandringham City 2 Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Bye Boroondara Lions , North Caulfield 0 Alphington 0, Essendon Royals 6 Brighton 0

Girls Metro 14 B: South Melbourne Glen Waverley , Glen Eira 2 Port Melbourne 1, Berwick City 0 Diamond Valley Utd 5, Pascoe Vale Boroondara Lions , Brunswick Zebras Box Hill Inter

Girls N/W 14 C: Kensington JGSC 4 Sunbury Utd 0, Doncaster Rovers 1 Eltham North 0, South Yarra 7 DOC United FC 0, Keilor Park 5 Whittlesea Zebras 0, FC Bulleen Lions 3 Watsonia Heights 0

Girls S/E 14 C: Brandon Park 2 Brighton 0, Baxter 0 Peninsula Strikers JFC 3, North Caulfield Boronia , Eastern Lions 0 Sherbrooke Rangers 1

Girls Metro 13 A: Bye Croydon City Arrows , Ashburton 2 Brunswick Zebras 2, Richmond 0 Sherbrooke Rangers 2, Keilor Park 3 Boroondara Lions 0, Carrum Utd 1 Knox City 0

Girls Metro 13 B: North Caulfield 0 Brighton 3, Beaumaris 0 Boronia 4, Nunawading City Hoppers Crossing , Eltham North 2 Whitehorse 0, Monash City 0 Glen Waverley 0

Girls Metro 13 C: Sandringham City 0 Brighton 0, Baxter 0 Glen Eira 3, Banyule City 0 Oakleigh 0, Casey Panthers 2 Peninsula Strikers JFC 1

Girls Metro 13 D: Mornington 0 Sydenham Park 8, Boronia 0 Glen Waverley 3, Heidelberg Utd 4 Carrum Utd 0, Keilor Wolves 0 Bundoora Utd 3

Girls Metro 12 A: Richmond 6 Carrum Utd 0, Beaumaris 0 Boroondara Lions 2, Keilor Park 0 Dandenong Thunder 0, Berwick City 1 Hampton 2, Ashburton 1 Brighton 0

Girls Metro 12 B: Glen Eira Sandringham City , Richmond 0 Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Oakleigh 0 St. Albans 1, Eltham North 0 Ashburton 0, North Caulfield Brighton

Girls N/W 12 C: Bye Brunswick Zebras 1 , Essendon Royals 2 Green Gully 0, Brunswick Zebras 2 Kensington JGSC , Banyule City 1 Watsonia Heights 3, Diamond Valley Utd 0 Sunbury Utd 0

Girls S/E 12 C: FC Bulleen Lions Bye , Glen Waverley 0 Box Hill Inter 5, Clifton Hill 0 Croydon City Arrows 1

Girls Metro 11 A: South Yarra Bye , Stonnington City 1 Croydon City Arrows 0, North Caulfield Brighton , Ringwood City 1 Sherbrooke Rangers 1, Ashburton 2 Boroondara Lions 0, East Bentleigh Pascoe Vale

Girls Metro 11 B: Sandringham City 1 5 Casey Panthers 0, Berwick City 6 Hampton 0, North Caulfield 0 Brighton 5, Rosebud Bye , Peninsula Strikers JFC 1 Sandringham City 2 1, Ashburton 0 Carrum Utd 0

Boys 18 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
FC Bulleen Lions	15	13	0	2	49	9	39
South Melbourne	15	12	1	2	63	20	37
Springvale White Ea	15	7	5	3	28	14	26
Fawkner	13	8	1	4	32	14	25
Essendon Royals	15	7	3	5	35	15	24
Green Gully	13	6	3	4	27	23	21
Brunswick City	14	6	2	6	25	31	20
Kingston City	15	5	4	6	21	26	19
Keilor Park	15	4	2	9	14	25	14
South Springvale	15	3	1	11	12	49	10
Brimbank City	14	2	2	10	20	48	8
Casey Comets	15	1	2	12	15	67	5

Boys S/E 16 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Melbourne	11	8	2	1	38	16	26
Endeavour Utd	12	7	4	1	32	15	25
Doncaster Rovers	11	7	2	2	23	11	23
Chelsea	11	6	3	2	24	12	21
Springvale White Ea	11	6	2	3	32	18	20
FC Bulleen Lions	12	4	5	3	24	20	17
Oakleigh	11	4	1	6	25	20	13
Berwick City	11	2	1	8	14	28	7
Box Hill Inter	12	1	1	10	6	46	4
Eastern Lions	12	0	3	9	7	39	3

Boys S/E 15 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Nunawading City	10	8	1	1	27	7	25
FC Bulleen Lions	11	7	2	2	29	10	23
North Caulfield	10	7	1	2	20	13	22
Monash City	9	6	1	2	33	13	19
Mornington	10	4	3	3	18	11	15
Dandenong City	11	3	4	4	14	13	13
Oakleigh	10	2	1	7	7	30	7
Dandenong Thunder	10	1	1	8	5	30	4
Berwick City	11	1	0	10	11	37	3

Boys S/E 14 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
FC Bulleen Lions	11	8	3	0	25	6	27
Beaumaris	11	6	3	2	17	11	21
Richmond	12	5	4	3	21	15	19
South Melbourne	11	5	3	3	16	9	18
Monash City	12	3	6	3	12	15	15
Peninsula Strikers	12	4	3	5	14	18	15
Oakleigh	11	2	6	3	15	21	12
GSL	9	2	4	3	6	7	10
Sandringham City	11	2	4	5	11	16	10
Box Hill Inter	12	0	2	10	7	26	2

Boys S/E 13 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Melbourne	11	11	0	0	48	2	33
Monash City	10	8	1	1	15	4	25
FC Bulleen Lions	11	5	4	2	23	10	19
Berwick City	11	5	2	4	16	12	17
Croydon City Arrows	12	5	1	6	21	26	16
N.T.C	10	2	5	3	13	13	11
GSL	9	2	4	3	16	17	10
Sandringham City	10	1	6	3	14	18	9
Brighton	12	1	2	9	13	39	5
Box Hill Inter	12	1	1	10	8	46	4

Boys N/W 16 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Fawkner	11	7	2	2	24	18	23
Coburg Utd	10	7	1	2	29	13	22
Green Gully	9	6	1	2	19	14	19
Preston Lions	10	5	2	3	18	9	17
Keilor Park	10	5	2	3	21	14	17
Melbourne Knights	11	4	1	6	21	24	13
Hume Utd	10	3	1	6	18	25	10
Sunshine Georgies	10	1	3	6	11	32	6
Cairnlea	11	1	1	9	10	22	4

Boys N/W 15 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Green Gully	10	7	2	1	31	8	23
Fawkner	10	7	2	1	21	8	23
Essendon Royals	10	7	1	2	32	11	22
Preston Lions	10	4	3	3	18	17	15
Keilor Park	10	4	0	6	13	21	12
Sunshine Heights	10	3	2	5	11	16	11
Altona Magic	11	3	2	6	10	21	11
Melbourne Knights	10	1	4	5	10	15	7
Ballarat Academy Of	11	2	0	9	6	35	6

Boys N/W 14 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brimbank	10	8	2	0	36	6	26
Coburg Utd	12	7	2	3	25	15	23
Green Gully	10	7	1	2	23	14	22
Brunswick City	10	5	1	4	20	15	16
Melbourne Knights	12	3	5	4	8	13	14
Keilor Park	10	3	2	5	12	15	11
Whittlesea Zebras	11	3	2	6	9	24	11
Essendon Royals	10	2	4	4	20	18	10
Cairnlea	12	3	1	8	12	27	10
Hume Utd	11	2	2	7	13	31	8

Boys N/W 13 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Green Gully	11	7	4	0	28	8	25
Essendon Royals	11	7	4	0	21	9	25
Melbourne Knights	11	5	4	2	22	11	19
Keilor Park	11	5	2	4	20	19	17
Brunswick Zebras	12	4	3	5	17	15	15
Bundoora Utd	10	3	4	3	15	19	13
Altona City	12	4	1	7	12	22	13
GRFA	11	3	3	5	15	22	12
North City Lions	11	2	1	8	17	29	7
Light Utd	12	1	4	7	8	21	7

Boys Metro 18 Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Altona City	12	9	3	0	24	4	30
Manningham	12	9	2	1	25	10	29
Frankston Pines	12	7	3	2	36	12	24
Richmond	12	7	3	2	31	13	24
Cairnlea	11	6	1	4	26	16	19
Doncaster Rovers	11	3	3	5	15	24	12
Altona East	11	4	0	7	13	29	12
Stonnington City	11	2	1	8	17	25	7
Eastern Lions	12	1	2	9	8	34	5
Knox City	12	0	2	10	12	40	2

Boys Metro 18 Orange

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Langwarrin	12	10	1	1	66	21	31
Brighton	11	9	2	0	42	12	29
Berwick City	12	8	2	2	38	11	26
Doveton	12	8	1	3	49	25	25
Baxter	12	7	0	5	56	34	21
Mornington	12	6	0	6	37	35	18
Keysborough	12	3	1	8	20	42	10
Endeavour Utd	11	2	1	8	17	51	7
Sandringham City	12	1	1	10	15	50	4
Beaumaris	12	0	1	11	14	73	1

Boys Metro 18 Purple

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Richmond	12	10	1	1	50	12	31
Whittlesea Zebras	11	9	0	2	26	16	27
Oakleigh	10	6	3	1	28	13	21
Heidelberg Utd	11	4	2	5	31	32	14
Preston Lions	9	4	1	4	20	26	13
Altona Magic	11	3	3	5	17	21	12
Sunshine Georgies	12	3	3	6	18	26	12
Bentleigh Greens	11	3	1	7	21	27	10
DOC United FC	10	3	0	7	20	32	9
Westgate	11	1	2	8	15	41	5

Boys Metro 18 Red

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Melbourne Phoenix	11	10	1	0	47	9	31
Light Utd	12	9	1	2	36	11	28
Western Eagles	11	8	1	2	39	15	25
Bundoora Utd	12	7	3	2	42	23	24
Lalor Utd	11	5	0	6	29	33	15
Ballarat & District SA	12	4	2	6	26	35	14
Northcote City	11	4	1	6	31	23	13
Essendon Royals	12	2	3	7	19	33	9
Westvale	12	1	2	9	13	48	5
Brunswick Zebras	12	0	2	10	6	58	2

Boys Metro 18 Yellow

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brandon Park	12	11	0	1	38	12	33
North Caulfield	11	9	0	2	44	18	27
Manningham	12	8	2	2	59	14	26
Doncaster Rovers	11	7	2	2	38	19	23
Boroondara Lions	12	7	0	5	36	23	21
Sherbrooke Rangers	11	4	2	5	35	29	14
East Bentleigh	11	3	0	8	15	54	9
Darebin Legends	10	2	2	6	16	34	8
Ashburton	12	2	0	10	17	43	6
Mooroolbark	12	0	0	12	6	58	0

Boys South 16 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brighton	12	9	0	3	37	15	27
Sandringham City	11	8	1	2	30	13	25
Southern Stars	12	8	1	3	31	17	25
Dandenong City	12	7	1	4	48	25	22
Mornington	11	5	1	5	25	23	16
Langwarrin	12	4	0	8	19	32	12
Chelsea	12	4	0	8	25	39	12
Berwick City	12	0	0	12	17	68	0

Boys South 16 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Doveton	8	7	1	0	51	8	22
Baxter	9	7	1	1	33	12	22
Langwarrin	9	6	0	3	27	21	18
Brighton	8	3	1	4	16	27	10
Bentleigh Greens	8	2	1	5	17	22	7
Casey Comets	8	1	0	7	12	30	3
Beaumaris	8	1	0	7	17	53	3

Boys South 15 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Langwarrin	10	10	0	0	32	4	30
Chelsea	11	8	0	3	30	19	24
Brighton	10	7	0	3	23	14	21
Doveton	11	6	2	3	24	11	20
Berwick City	11	4	1	6	23	26	13
East Bentleigh	10	3	3	4	14	23	12
Beaumaris	10	3	2	5	19	16	11
Casey Comets	11	1	1	9	14	34	4
Springvale White Eagl	10	0	1	9	5	37	1

Boys South 15 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brighton	12	9	1	2	42	14	28
Sandringham City	11	9	0	2	34	14	27
Peninsula Strikers JFC	11	6	3	2	47	31	21
Langwarrin	11	5	1	5	24	22	16
Berwick City	11	3	3	5	17	16	12
Carrum Utd	12	2	3	7	16	33	9
Seaford Utd	11	2	0	9	14	56	6
Hampton Park Utd	7	1	1	5	17	25	4

Boys South 15 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Endeavour Utd	11	10	1	0	36	8	31
Baxter 1	11	6	3	2	36	13	21
Beaumaris	11	5	3	3	18	17	18
Phillip Island	11	4	2	5	35	25	14
Sandringham City	11	4	2	5	12	30	14
Doveton	10	3	4	3	17	15	13
Baxter 2	10	3	1	6	16	20	10
East Bentleigh	10	2	2	6	9	25	8
Brighton	11	2	0	9	18	44	6

Boys South 14 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Berwick City	11	10	1	0	62	4	31
Hampton Park Utd	12	7	3	2	28	24	24
Brighton	11	6	3	2	39	9	21
Bentleigh Greens	12	6	2	4	44	14	20
Harrisfield Hurricanes	12	6	2	4	25	23	20
Hampton	12	5	2	5	18	29	17
Chelsea	12	3	6	3	21	18	15
Mornington	12	1	3	8	14	44	6
Keysborough	12	2	0	10	16	67	6
Beaumaris	12	1	2	9	11	46	5

Boys South 14 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Endeavour Utd	12	12	0	0	64	4	36
Sandringham City	12	9	2	1	20	7	29
Bentleigh Greens	12	9	0	3	44	17	27
Langwarrin	12	7	0	5	29	12	21
Chelsea	12	5	2	5	24	26	17
Berwick City	12	4	1	7	24	36	13
Mornington	12	3	1	8	9	20	10
Brighton	12	3	1	8	8	29	10
Baxter	12	2	1	9	11	50	7
Hampton	12	2	0	10	9	41	6

Boys South 14 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
East Bentleigh	11	10	0	1	55	19	30
Rosebud	11	7	2	2	41	14	23
Casey Comets	11	6	3	2	47	19	21
Seaford Utd	11	5	2	4	27	21	17
Langwarrin	11	5	1	5	23	21	16
Peninsula Strikers JFC	11	4	2	5	17	27	14
Sandringham City	10	2	1	7	18	43	7
Hampton Park Utd	10	2	0	8	7	50	6
Brighton	10	1	1	8	14	35	4

Boys South 13 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Dandenong Thunder	10	8	1	1	33	10	25
Mornington	11	8	1	2	29	17	25
Berwick City	11	7	1	3	25	11	22
Hampton Park Utd	11	5	1	5	20	16	16
Endeavour Utd	10	5	1	4	17	13	16
Keysborough	10	4	2	4	21	12	14
Dandenong City	11	4	1	6	16	14	13
Langwarrin	10	1	0	9	8	38	3
Hampton	10	1	0	9	11	49	3

Boys South 13 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Bentleigh Greens	11	9	0	2	50	14	27
East Bentleigh	12	8	1	3	33	10	25
Beaumaris	12	7	0	5	26	23	21
Doveton	11	6	1	4	20	16	19
Mornington	12	5	2	5	22	16	17
Brighton	11	5	2	4	17	19	17
Sandringham City	11	2	0	9	9	47	6
Baxter	12	1	0	11	9	41	3

Boys South 13 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brighton	11	10	0	1	40	6	30
Springvale White Eag	12	9	0	3	39	22	27
Carrum Utd	12	8	0	4	29	24	24
Peninsula Strikers	12	7	0	5	28	11	21

Results & Ladders

Casey Comets	11	6	0	5	25	22	18
Rosebud	12	3	1	8	28	45	10
Beaumaris	12	3	0	9	16	35	9
Mornington	12	0	1	11	10	50	1

Boys South 13 D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Berwick City	12	11	0	1	42	12	33
Endeavour Utd	12	8	2	2	30	12	26
Langwarrin	12	6	5	1	24	9	23
Brighton	12	7	2	3	22	12	23
Lyndale Utd	12	4	4	4	34	30	16
Frankston Pines	12	2	1	9	12	31	7
Peninsula Strikers	12	1	3	8	7	27	6
East Bentleigh	12	0	1	11	3	41	1

Boys South 12 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Eastern Piran	12	12	0	0	68	5	36
Brighton	12	10	0	2	37	12	30
Sandringham City	12	8	2	2	35	13	26
Mornington	12	7	1	4	24	19	22
GSL	11	5	1	5	20	21	16
Hampton	12	3	3	6	12	31	12
Berwick City	11	3	2	6	30	30	11
Bentleigh Greens	12	0	5	7	9	40	5
Langwarrin	11	0	3	8	8	35	3
Peninsula Strikers JF	11	0	3	8	4	41	3

Boys South 12 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Melbourne Phoenix J	12	10	1	1	59	6	31
Casey Comets	12	9	2	1	34	9	29
Berwick City	12	9	1	2	24	14	28
Beaumaris	12	9	0	3	37	8	27
Sandringham City	12	6	3	3	36	12	21
Southern Stars	12	6	1	5	22	22	19
Hampton Park Utd	12	4	0	8	26	29	12
Langwarrin	12	2	0	10	10	49	6
Bentleigh Greens	12	1	0	11	8	65	3
Seaford Utd	12	0	0	12	6	48	0

Boys South 12 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Doveton	10	10	0	0	87	0	30
Brighton	11	9	1	1	47	5	28
Beaumaris	10	6	1	3	39	15	19
Hampton Park Utd	11	6	1	4	23	27	19
Mornington	11	3	4	4	19	30	13
Hampton	10	2	2	6	11	31	8
East Bentleigh	11	2	2	7	13	39	8
Sandringham City	11	2	2	7	7	35	8
Langwarrin	11	0	3	8	4	68	3

Boys South 12 D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Dandenong Thunder	12	12	0	0	83	4	36
Lyndale Utd	12	8	2	2	31	19	26
Doveton	12	7	2	3	29	15	23
East Bentleigh	12	5	4	3	22	20	19
Keysborough	12	5	3	4	28	31	18
Berwick City	12	4	3	5	19	34	15
Carrum Utd	12	3	5	4	14	21	14
Beaumaris	12	2	3	7	11	30	9
Brighton	12	1	4	7	13	30	7
Baxter	12	0	0	12	1	47	0

Boys South 12 E

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Casey Panthers	12	11	0	1	44	9	33
Harrisfield Hurricane	12	10	1	1	31	3	31
Baxter (Western Port)	12	10	0	2	59	16	30
Beaumaris	12	6	1	5	34	20	19
Casey Comets	12	6	1	5	26	20	19
Brighton	12	4	1	7	15	35	13
Sandringham City	11	3	2	6	16	20	11
Rosebud	10	1	4	5	8	27	7
Seaford Utd	12	1	1	10	7	55	4
Peninsula Strikers J	11	0	1	10	8	43	1

Boys South 11 Kangaroos Green

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brighton	11	10	1	0	58	5	31
South Eastern Piranh	11	7	2	2	45	11	23
Mornington	11	6	4	1	38	7	22
Beaumaris	11	6	3	2	36	8	21
Dandenong City	11	5	1	5	26	25	16
Bentleigh Greens	11	4	3	4	23	14	15
Endeavour Utd	10	2	0	8	5	42	6
Peninsula Strikers JF	10	1	0	9	7	55	3
Kingston City	10	0	0	10	1	72	0

Boys South 11 Kangaroos Yellow

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Springvale White Eag	12	12	0	0	61	5	36
Berwick City	12	9	0	3	34	14	27
GSL	11	8	1	2	29	7	25
Sandringham City	12	6	1	5	28	27	19
Langwarrin	11	6	0	5	25	21	18
Southern Stars	12	5	1	6	12	12	16
Brandon Park	12	4	3	5	21	29	15
Hampton	12	3	2	7	12	25	11
Aspendale	12	1	0	11	9	42	3
Chelsea	12	1	0	11	5	54	3

Boys South 11 Kangaroos/Joeys Red

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Mornington	12	12	0	0	53	3	36
Beaumaris	12	10	1	1	73	5	31
Brighton 1	12	8	1	3	39	6	25
Brighton 2	12	6	1	5	22	15	19
Hampton	12	3	1	8	8	39	10
Sandringham City	12	2	1	9	7	33	7
Aspendale	12	2	1	9	6	73	7
Keysborough	12	2	0	10	13	47	6

Boys South 11 Joeys Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Hampton Park Utd	12	11	0	1	43	5	33
Beaumaris	12	9	1	2	30	6	28
Berwick City	12	7	1	4	17	19	22
Brighton	12	5	4	3	17	19	19
Baxter	12	4	2	6	5	11	14
Peninsula Strikers JF	12	3	1	8	7	20	10
Sandringham City	12	2	2	8	9	19	8
Carrum Utd	12	1	1	10	4	33	4

Boys South 11 Joeys Orange

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Doveton	12	11	0	1	45	5	33
Casey Comets	12	8	3	1	36	10	27
Berwick City	12	6	4	2	30	7	22
Mornington	12	5	4	3	19	12	19
Beaumaris	12	3	5	4	10	16	14
Seaford Utd	12	3	0	9	14	37	9
Bentleigh Greens	12	2	1	9	9	46	7
Brighton	12	0	3	9	4	34	3

Boys East 16 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Nunawading City	11	8	1	2	23	13	25
Whitehorse	12	8	0	4	25	14	24
Manningham	12	7	1	4	25	16	22
Doncaster Rovers	11	7	0	4	24	21	21
FC Bulleen Lions	12	6	0	6	28	18	18
Riversdale	12	5	2	5	24	17	17
Sherbrooke Rangers	12	5	0	7	20	26	15
Richmond	12	4	0	8	26	39	12
Oakleigh	11	3	1	7	20	34	10
Clayton	11	2	1	8	13	30	7

Boys East 16 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Casey Comets	12	10	0	2	65	24	30
North Caulfield	11	10	0	1	54	15	30
Glen Waverley	12	9	0	3	36	30	27
Boronia	11	8	1	2	43	18	25
Caulfield Utd	12	6	0	6	57	34	18
Manningham	12	2	1	9	15	50	7
Hampton Park Utd	12	1	0	11	34	56	3
Knox City	12	0	0	12	11	88	0

Boys East 16 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Eastern Lions	12	11	0	1	54	13	33
Mooroolbark	12	9	1	2	36	12	28
South Springvale	12	8	0	4	51	19	24
Ashburton	12	8	0	4	47	24	24
Whitehorse	12	7	2	3	47	21	23
Hampton	11	5	1	5	40	21	16
Mooroolbark	12	2	3	7	17	48	9
Croydon City Arrows	12	1	3	8	18	48	6
Clayton	12	1	1	10	8	53	4
Glen Eira	11	1	1	9	11	70	4

Boys East 15 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Melbourne	12	10	1	1	38	7	31
Boronia	12	9	2	1	35	8	29
FC Bulleen Lions	12	6	4	2	21	9	22
Brandon Park	12	6	2	4	35	21	20
Richmond	12	6	1	5	27	13	19
Eastern Lions	12	4	3	5	34	20	15
Doncaster Rovers	12	3	5	4	30	29	14
Manningham	12	3	1	8	16	36	10
Glen Waverley	12	1	5	6	14	25	8
Clayton	12	0	0	12	1	83	0

Boys East 15 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Oakleigh	11	9	2	0	35	8	29
FC Bulleen Lions	12	8	2	2	42	13	26
Richmond	12	8	1	3	35	20	25
Riversdale	12	5	3	4	32	18	18
Caulfield Utd	12	5	2	5	16	27	17
Doncaster Rovers	11	4	1	6	15	23	13
North Caulfield	11	3	3	5	22	25	12
Boronia	11	3	2	6	15	37	11
Sherbrooke Rangers	12	2	1	9	12	34	7
Manningham	12	1	3	8	13	32	6

Boys East 15 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Whitehorse	10	9	0	1	34	4	27
Ashburton 1	11	8	1	2	52	9	25
Brandon Park	11	7	3	1	24	5	24
Ringwood City	9	7	0	2	22	14	21
Mooroolbark	11	5	1	5	18	20	16
Glen Waverley	10	2	2	6	14	23	8
North Caulfield	10	1	3	6	11	33	6
Ashburton 2	11	2	0	9	9	43	6
Boroondara Lions	11	0	2	9	8	41	2

Boys East 14 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Knox City	12	11	1	0	78	6	34
Whitehorse	12	8	2	2	38	7	26
Doncaster Rovers	11	7	3	1	29	8	24
FC Bulleen Lions	12	6	2	4	21	17	20
North Caulfield	11	6	1	4	24	33	19
Casey Comets	12	3	3	6	16	25	12
Brandon Park	11	3	1	7	10	26	10
Glen Waverley	12	2	2	8	11	42	8
Manningham	12	2	1	9	13	46	7
Waverley Wanderers	11	0	4	7	4	34	4

Boys East 14 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Stonnington City	12	11	1	0	38	3	34
Ringwood City	11	9	0	2	25	14	27
Riversdale	11	8	1	2	27	13	25
Knox City	11	4	4	3	24	16	16
Eastern Lions	11	5	1	5	20	17	16
Noble Park	12	4	2	6	24	28	14
Doncaster Rovers	10	4	1	5	16	11	13
Glen Waverley	11	2	2	7	10	23	8
North Caulfield	11	1	1	9	11	42	4
Croydon City Arrows	12	0	3	9	6	34	3

Boys East 14 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Melbourne Phoenix	12	12	0	0	103	4	36
Whitehorse	12	10	1	1	71	9	31
Richmond	12	8	0	4	44	15	24
Boronia	12	7	1	4	37	25	22
Mooroolbark	12	5	0	7	29	44	15
Heidelberg Utd	11	3	0	8	13	60	9
Doncaster Rovers	11	1	0	10	7	60	3
Caulfield Utd	12	0	0	12	4	91	0

Boys East 14 D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Glen Eira	10	7	2	1	36	17	23
Richmond	11	7	1	3	48	13	22
Nunawading City	9	6	3	0	38	9	21
Riversdale	11	6	1	4	36	19	19
Stonnington City	9	5	1	3	28	17	16
Boroondara Lions	10	3	2	5	29	23	11
Ringwood City	11	3	1	7	22	31	10
East Bentleigh	10	3	0	7	15	51	9
Croydon City Arrow	11	0	1	10	5	77	1

Boys East 13 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Richmond	12	11	1	0	49	5	34
Oakleigh	11	9	1	1	31	10	28
Glen Waverley	12	7	3	2	22	12	24
North Caulfield	11	5	3	3	20	15	18
South Melbourne	12	4	2	6	15	19	14
Riversdale	11	3	4	4	18	27	13
Doncaster Rovers	12	4	1	7	16	25	13
Mooroolbark	12	2	2	8	14	24	8
Boronia	12	2	1	9	13	33	7
Nunawading City	11	2	0	9	8	36	6

Boys East 13 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Richmond	11	8	1	2	26	6	25
FC Bulleen Lions	10	7	3	0	27	3	24
Knox City	11	7	0	4	22	9	21
Ashburton	11	5	1	5	15	18	16
Clayton	10	3	1	6	9	13	10
Avondale Heights	10	3	0	7	15	18	9
Glen Eira	9	0	0	9	4	51	0

Boys East 13 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Boroondara Lions	12	9	1	2	34	11	28
Manningham	11	8	2	1	33	7	26
Ringwood City	11	8	1	2	28	9	25
FC Bulleen Lions	12	6	1	5	27	14	19
Sherbrooke Rangers	12	5	0	7	17	22	15
North Caulfield	11	4	1	6	19	16	13
Caulfield Utd	12	4	1	7	21	26	13
Boronia	12	4	1	7	12	20	13
Brunswick City	11	3	2	6	20	30	11
Springvale City	12	2	0	10	12	68	6

Boys East 13 D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Knox Utd	12	10	2	0	66	10	32
Brandon Park	11	8	1	2	34	4	25
Eastern Lions	11	8	1	2	24	6	25
Clifton Hill	12	8	1	3	30	15	25
Richmond	10	6	0	4	15	21	18
Glen Eira	12	4	2	6	17	16	14
Riversdale	12	3	2	7	9	29	11
Ashburton	12	3	0	9	13	45	9
Monash City	12	2	1	9	14	42	7
Glen Waverley	12	1	0	11	9	43	3

Boys East 13 E

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Waverley Wandere	12	8	3	1	40	9	27
Croydon City Arrows	12	8	3	1	27	9	27
Chelsea	12	7	3	2	34	9	24
Oakleigh	11	5	2	4	24	19	17
Knox Utd	12	5	1	6	20	24	16
Ringwood City	11	3	4	4	12	18	13
Manningham	12	1	4	7	17	28	7
Mooroolbark	12	0	0	12	4	62	0

Boys East 13 F

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Whitehorse	11	11	0	0	59	6	33
Heidelberg Stars	12	10	0	2	56	5	30
Richmond	12	9	1	2	32	14	28
South Springvale	12	4	1	7	17	37	13
Rowville Eagles	12	3	3	6	17	35	12
Stonnington City	12	3	2	7	16	29	11
North Caulfield	11	1	3	7	9	30	6
Eastern Lions	12	0	2	10	6	56	2

Boys East 12 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Melbourne	11	11	0	0	35	2	33
Box Hill Inter	12	9	0	3	34	7	27
Knox City	12	8	1	3	18	9	25
Richmond	12	7	2	3	46	17	23
FC Bulleen Lions	12	7	1	4	14	8	22
North Caulfield	11	3	3	5	10	14	12
Riversdale	12	4	0	8	15	20	12
Monash City	11	4	0	7	15	21	12
Ashburton	12	1	0	11	1	53	3
Oakleigh	11	0	1	10	4	41	1

Boys East 12 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Doncaster Rovers	10	8	2	0	36	4	26
Box Hill Inter	11	8	2	1	32	9	26
Richmond	10	7	0	3	31	14	21
FC Bulleen Lions	10	7	0	3	25	12	21
Oakleigh	10	3	2	5	16	25	11
Clayton	11	3	2	6	9	22	11
Glen Waverley	11	3	0	8	9	24	9
Springvale City	10	2	0	8	11	30	6
Manningham	11	1	2	8	5	34	5

Boys East 12 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Doncaster Rovers	12	10	2	0	46	5	32
South Springvale	12	7	4	1	35	10	25
Richmond	12	7	3	2	38	9	24
Sherbrooke Rangers	12	7	3	2	31	13	24
FC Bulleen Lions	12	5	3	4	27	19	18
North Caulfield	11	5	1	5	24	12	16
Glen Eira	11	2	4	5	17	29	10
Lalor	12	2	3	7	19	35	9
Glen Waverley	12	2	1	9	10	35	7
Mooroolbark	12	0	0	12	3	83	0

Boys East 12 D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Nunawading City	12	10	2	0	24	7	32
Avondale Heights	12	6	2	4	29	21	20
Croydon City Arrows	12	6	2	4	25	18	20
Boroondara Lions	12	5	4	3	17	17	19
Eastern Lions	12	5	3	4	25	24	18
Boronia	12	5	2	5	19	19	17
Riversdale	12	1	3	8	6	19	6
Ashburton	12	1	0	11	8	28	3

Boys East 12 E

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Whitehorse	10	8	1	1	26	12	25
Boroondara Lions	9	8	0	1	55	7	24
Croydon City Arrows	11	5	5	1	21	11	20
Richmond	11	4	3	4	10	13	15
Eastern Lions	10	3	5	2	13	11	14
Doncaster Rovers	10	3	2	5	16	26	11
North Caulfield	9	3	1	5	13	16	10
Ashburton	11	1	2	8	3	40	5
Ringwood City	9	0	1	8	5	26	1

Boys East 12 F

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Clifton Hill	10	10	0	0	74	0	30
Knox City	12	9	0	3	49	15	27
Glen Waverley	10	5	1	4	28	27	16
Doncaster Rovers	10	4	1	5	12	29	13
Ashburton	9	2	2	5	14	49	8
Croydon City Arrows	9	1	1	7	9	40	4
Boronia	10	0	3	7	8	34	3

Boys East 11 Kangaroos Green

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Doncaster Rovers	11	8	3	0	28	8	27
Richmond	11	8	3	0	20	3	27
Croydon City Arrows	12	8	0	4	22	16	24
Oakleigh	11	6	3	2	25	13	21
Box Hill Inter	11	3	3	5	14	18	12
FC Bulleen Lions	11	2	1	8	8	20	7
Ashburton	12	1	2	9	6	18	5
Caulfield Utd	11	1	1	9	3	30	4

Boys East 11 Kangaroos Orange

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Melbourne	11	9	1	1	50	6	28
Hampton	11	9	1	1	33	3	28
Whitehorse	10	7	2	1	25	5	23
Oakleigh	10	4	2	4	19	15	14
North Caulfield	10	4	1	5	11	19	13
Knox Utd	11	3	3	5	13	16	12
Richmond	11	3	1	7	10	36	10
Riversdale	10	2	0	8	5	37	6
Mooroolbark	10	0	1	9	3	32	1

Boys East 11 Kangaroos Yellow

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Monash City	12	11	1	0	63	2	34
Box Hill Inter	12	10	1	1	48	5	31
FC Bulleen Lions	12	9	2	1	38	3	29
Eastern Lions	12	7	0	5	32	18	21
South Yarra	12	4	2	6	11	28	14
Ashburton	12	4	0	8	11	24	12
Boroondara Lions	12	4	0	8	15	39	12
Manningham	12	3	2	7	14	28	11
Doncaster Rovers	12	2	2	8	6	38	8
Stonnington City	12	0	2	10	0	53	2

Boys East 11 Joeys Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
East Bentleigh	11	11	0	0	71	0	33
Richmond	12	11	0	1	40	3	33
Doncaster Rovers	12	10	0	2	25	10	30
Knox Utd	12	5	3	4	16	11	18
Whitehorse	12	3	5	4	17	18	14
FC Bulleen Lions	11	4	2	5	17	22	14
Sherbrooke Rangers	12	4	1	7	10	26	13
Croydon City Arrows	12	3	2	7	19	32	11
Glen Waverley	12	1	1	10	4	23	4
Boronia	12	0	0	12	1	75	0

Boys East 11 Joeys Orange

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sherbrooke Rangers	11	10	1	0	47	2	31
Ringwood City	9	8	1	0	45	7	25
Whitehorse	9	6	1	2	23	7	19
Waverley Wanderers	10	6	0	4	40	17	18
Knox City	11	4	3	4	27	12	15
North Caulfield	10	4	1	5	13	12	13
Riversdale	10	3	1	6	13	36	10
Richmond	11	1	0	10	10	56	3
Mooroolbark	11	0	0	11	2	71	0

Boys East 11 Joeys Red

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Knox City	12	12	0	0	55	4	36
Whitehorse	12	7	4	1	18	8	25
Glen Waverley	12	6	3	3	14	12	21
Boroondara Lions	12	5	2	5	16	20	17
Doncaster Rovers	12	5	2	5	16	22	17
Ashburton	12	4	4	4	12	15	16
Oakleigh	11	3	3	5	15	23	12
Richmond	12	3	2	7	9	17	11
East Bentleigh	12	2	2	8	16	31	8
North Caulfield	11	1	0	10	5	24	3

Boys North 16 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Essendon Royals	11	9	0	2	34	10	27
Bundoora Utd	10	7	1	2	33	19	22
Northcote City	11	7	1	3	25	15	22
Heidelberg Stars	10	5	2	3	38	20	17
Whittlesea Zebras	11	4	4	3	22	25	16
Moreland Utd	10	3	2	5	24	25	11
Brunswick Zebras	9	3	0	6	24	28	9
Epping City	11	2	1	8	9	30	7
Coburg Utd	9	0	1	8	8	45	1

Boys North 16 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Light Utd	11	10	1	0	88	9	31
Essendon Utd	12	10	0	2	64	11	30
Hume Utd	12	8	2	2	54	17	26
DOC United FC	11	7	1	3	47	21	22
Watsonia Heights	12	6	3	3	34	22	21
Moreland Wolves	11	5	1	5	29	29	16
Bundoora Utd	11	3	2	6	27	29	11
Mitchell Rangers	11	2	0	9	13	59	6
Sunbury Utd	12	1	0	11	8	85	3
Brunswick Zebras	11	0	0	11	13	95	0

Boys North 15 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Essendon Royals	11	8	3	0	54	12	27
Fawkner	12	8	1	3	45	24	25
Whittlesea Zebras	12	7	2	3	45	22	23
Bundoora Utd	11	6	2	3	21	16	20
Moreland City	11	5	3	3	31	13	18
Epping City	11	5	2	4	26	19	17
Brunswick Zebras	11	4	1	6	20	21	13
Lalor Utd	11	3	2	6	12	24	11
Light Utd	10	2	0	8	13	50	6
Heidelberg Utd	12	0	0	12	9	75	0

Boys North 15 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Northcote City	12	11	0	1	50	14	33
Moreland Utd	12	9	0	3	42	14	27
Diamond Valley Utd	12	9	0	3	32	20	27
Bundoora Utd	11	8	0	3	39	18	24
Plenty Valley Lions	12	6	0	6	40	33	18
Brunswick City	11	5	2	4	33	28	17
Moreland City	12	3	1	8	19	45	10
Epping City	12	3	1	8	22	49	10
Watsonia Heights	12	1	3	8	16	33	6
Heidelberg Stars	12	0	1	11	12	51	1

Boys North 14 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Epping City	11	8	1	2	34	14	25
Preston Lions	11	8	1	2	26	9	25
Light Utd	12	7	3	2	28	19	24
Fawkner	12	7	2	3	26	11	23
Bundoora Utd	12	5	3	4	23	12	18
Sunbury Utd	12	4	4	4	18	15	16
Greenvale Utd	11	4	2	5	18	17	14
Essendon Royals	12	3	2	7	20	35	11
Eltham North	11	2	1	8	14	25	7
Clifton Hill	12	0	1	11	5	55	1

Boys North 14 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Moreland City	12	9	3	0	41	10	30
Brunswick Zebras	10	9	0	1	42	8	27
Meadow Park	12	5	4	3	25	13	19
Whittlesea Zebras	12	6	0	6	45	28	18
Watsonia Heights	12	5	2	5	29	20	17
Banyule City	12	5	1	6	29	21	16
Northcote City	12	4	2	6	16	26	14
Fawkner	11	4	1	6	18	32	13
Bundoora Utd	12	3	3	6	12	21	12
Epping City	11	0	0	11	3	81	0

Boys North 14 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
FC City Central	11	11	0	0	77	1	33
Moreland Wolves	10	7	0	3	46	25	21
North City Lions	8	5	2	1	29	10	17
Coburg Utd	10	4	2	4	31	24	14
Essendon Royals	10	4	2	4	24	24	14
Brunswick Zebras	10	4	2	4	26	30	14
Alphington	10	3	2	5	30	25	11
Banyule City	11	1	1	9	11	57	4
Eltham North	10	0	1	9	4	82	1

Boys North 13 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Whittlesea Zebra	10	9	0	1	50	4	27
Brunswick City	10	7	2	1	24	7	23
Epping City	11	7	2	2	26	10	23
Essendon Royals	10	4	3	3	24	12	15
North City Lions	11	4	3	4	19	15	15
Preston Lions	9	3	2	4	13	16	11
Moreland City	10	3	1	6	9	16	10
Diamond Valley Utd	10	1	3	6	20	25	6
Reservoir Strikers	11	0	0	11	1	81	0

Boys North 13 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Fawkner	11	8	3	0	46	1	27
Hume Utd	11	8	3	0	29	2	27
Brunswick Zebras	11	7	3	1	29	5	24
Alphington	12	6	3	3	22	18	21
Clifton Hill	11	5	3	3	22	13	18
Essendon Utd	12	3	3	6	17	29	12
Eltham North	11	3	3	5	15	33	12
Epping City	12	3	2	7	20	20	11
Lalor Utd	11	2	1	8	8	39	7
Watsonia Heights	12	0	0	12	4	52	0

Boys North 12 A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Epping City	12	10	1	1	29	5	31
Coburg Utd	10	9	0	1	54	7	27
Whittlesea Zebras	11	8	1	2	24	11	25
Light Utd	12	7	2	3	29	13	23
Brunswick City	11	6	2	3	18	13	20
Essendon Royals	12	3	3	6	19	25	12
Hume Utd	12	3	1	8	15	31	10
Bundoora Utd	12	2	2	8	15	37	8
Meadow Park	12	2	1	9	20	46	7
Eltham North	12	1	1	10	9	44	4

Boys North 12 B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brunswick Zebras	11	10	1	0	55	10	31
Greenvale Utd	9	6	1	2	23	12	19
Light Utd	10	5	4	1	19	14	19
Moreland City	11	5	2	4	26	20	17
Preston Lions	10	5	0	5	23	15	15
Northcote City	9	4	1	4	20	19	13
Moreland Wolves	11	4	1	6	15	22	13
Fawkner	10	1	0	9	8	39	3
Coburg Utd	11	1	0	10	5	43	3

Boys North 12 C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Moreland Utd	12	10	1	1	49	7	31
Essendon Royals	12	8	3	1	35	15	27
Diamond Valley Utd	11	7	2	2	25	8	23
Alphington	12	6	2	4	29	24	20
Hume Utd	12	4	3	5	27	16	15
Banyule City	10	4	1	5	15	21	13
Heidelberg Utd	11	3	3	5	13	22	12
Watsonia Heights	12	3	2	7	15	27	11
Epping City	12	3	1	8	15	30	10
Sunbury Utd	12	0	2	10	9	62	2

Boys North 12 D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
North Lions	12	11	0	1	58	10	33
Plenty Valley Lions	11	10	1	0	41	6	31
DOC United FC	11	9	0	2	45	14	27
Brunswick Zebras	11	7	0	4	35	17	21
Pascoe Vale	11	6	0	5	37	25	18
Bundoora Utd	12	4	1	7	15	24	13
Mitchell Rangers	12	3	1	8	19	43	10
Broadmeadows Utd	11	3	0	8	9	29	9
North City Lions	11	2	1	8	10	36	7
Eltham North	12	0	0	12	7	72	0

Boys North 11 Kangaroos Yellow

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brunswick Zebras	10	9	0	1	45	12	27
Fawkner	11	8	1	2	29	7	25
Sunbury Utd	12	7	3	2	19	11	24
Lalor Utd	12	6	2	4	35	15	20
Bundoora Utd	12	5	4	3	33	16	19
Brunswick City	11	4	3	4	24	14	15
Epping City	12	3	3	6	16	21	12
Heidelberg Stars	11	3	1	7	14	26	10
Diamond Valley Utd	11	2	1	8	3	37	7
Meadow Park	12	1	0	11	9	68	3

Boys North 11 Joeys Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Northcote City	11	9	0	2	38	5	27
Light Utd	10	8	1	1	44	6	25
Moreland Utd	11	7	2	2	26	6	23
Bundoora Utd	10	5	3	2	19	10	18
Fawkner	10	4	2	4	17	13	14
Moreland City	11	4	2	5	18	19	14
Mitchell Rangers	11	1	3	7	8	43	6
Avondale Heights	9	1	1	7	5	31	4
Banyule City	11	0	2	9	4	46	2

Boys North 11 Joeys/Kangaroos Orange

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Essendon Royals 1	12	12	0	0	102	1	36
Alphington 1	11	8	1	2	35	18	25
Yarraville	11	7	1	3	35	14	22
Essendon Royals 2	12	6	3	3	33	18	21
Eltham North 1	12	5	3	4	25	13	18
Greenvale Utd	11	5	2	4	31	18	17
Heidelberg Utd	12	5	0	7	18	37	15
Alphington 2	12	3	0	9	12	61	9
Watsonia Heights	12	2	0	10	7	53	6
Eltham North 2	11	0	0	11	4	69	0

Blatter and £100,000 Slaves

Sepp Blatter: The gaffe prone gaffer

Sepp Blatter caused an uproar this week when he likened Cristiano Ronaldo's situation at Manchester United to modern day slavery.

Despite pocketing over £100,000 a week Ronaldo was inclined to agree with Blatter that as long as he is denied a move to Real Madrid he is indeed effectively a slave.

Blatter's comments are bizarre not only because of his definition of what constitutes a slave but also because of what he is effectively arguing for. He is essentially saying that players should be free to switch clubs whenever they want regardless of what contract they had with their current club. The repercussions are that contracts will become meaningless, as the whole point of a contract is to tie that player to that particular club. Taken to its logical conclusion what would be left would be a market where every player played for the highest bidder every six months.

In contrast to Blatter Arsene Wenger has recently bemoaned the state of the current transfer market and the direction it is heading in, likening footballers to mercenaries rather than slaves. Wenger's views are no doubt influenced by the fact he will quite possibility lose Alexander Hleb and Emmanuel Adebayor despite both being contracted to Arsenal. In the eyes of Wenger transfer fees will soon become relics of the past, as will all the smaller clubs who rely on selling players to bigger clubs to keep afloat.

It is a scenario that only the very wealthiest of clubs would like to see materialise which raises questions why Sepp Blatter is encouraging it. His real motives are suspicious and his neutrality is dubious to say the least. The FIFA president is an honorary member of Real Madrid and has close ties to president Ramon Calderon. He also has a track record of hostility towards England and anything English. Whether it's criticising the English playing style, the number of foreigners in the Premier League or England's ability to host a World Cup, Blatter never seems to pass a chance to make England look bad. Watching two English clubs in this year's Champions League final would have hurt the Anglophobe and no doubt he'd receive some personal pleasure in seeing Manchester United and the English Premier League robbed of one of their star assets.

Crystal Palace

The other major event this week to raise serious questions about the state of the transfer system was Crystal Palace's forced sale of John Bostock to Tottenham for only £700,000. Despite being only 16 years of age Bostock is already seen as a future England star in the making.

However the player is out of contract and has already made known his desire to move to Tottenham. When a player under the age of 17 is out-of-contract then he cannot sign for another club without compensation being paid to their original club. When the two clubs cannot agree on a fee then it can be taken to a Football League tribunal who will make their own valuation of the player.

This is precisely what happened between Crystal Palace and Tottenham and the tribunal valued Bostock at a paltry £700,000. Comparisons have already been made with Cardiff's Aaron Ramsay who was sold to Arsenal for £5 million. Because Ramsay was a year older Cardiff didn't need to make the sale via the tribunal and were able to exploit him for his full value.

Understandably Palace feel ripped off. A future England star and potential million-pound asset was lost for little more than what the club probably spent in training him up. The repercussions are that clubs like Crystal Palace are left wondering what is the point in investing in youth academies and developing young players. West Ham, Southampton and of course Palace have breed more than their fair share of future England internationals yet rarely do they reap the benefits of their prime years. More often than not the club is forced to sell such players to the highest bidder at a very young age. When clubs aren't even getting adequate compensation then it is not unreasonable to ask why they should continue pouring money into youth academies.

And if the Crystal Palace's of this world are not going to invest in developing young talent then who will? With most Premier League clubs finding it more profitable to invest in highly paid imports, where will the future English stars come from?

Bostock: Already wearing the number 10 in England colours

Tartan Talk

By Nic Townsend

Gossip and Transfer Speculation from the English Media...

AC Ready For Ronaldinho

AC Milan are on the brink of completing their purchase of Barcelona's Brazilian playmaker Ronaldinho, the Italian press reported on Saturday.

According to La Gazzetta dello Sport an agreement has been reached between AC Milan's vice-president Adriano Galliano and Barcelona president Joan Laporta for a fee of 15 million euros, with Ronaldinho set to sign a two-year contract to 2010 worth 6.5 million euros per year.

It will be a major coup for the 2007 European Champions who are still licking their wounds after failing to reach the 2008-09 Champions League and needed a big signing to signal their intent for next season.

The club will also be delighted with the price that they have negotiated for a player they have been tracking for over a year, with the final total 20 million euros lower than Barcelona's initial request of 35 million euros.

Bid For Berbatov

It was reported in The Sun on Friday that Manchester United have made a £20 million bid for Tottenham Hotspur's Bulgarian striker Dimitar Berbatov.

Berbatov is likely to add fire power to the likes of Wayne Rooney and Carlos Tevez up front. United have missed a target man since Ruud van Nistelrooy left the club for Real Madrid in 2006.

While Juande Ramos has not been keen to sell his prized asset he may be forced to do so to offset the nearly £50 million that he has already spent this year on players and renovations.

On the same day Newcastle manager Kevin Keegan announced that the club had made its second signing in the off season.

Twenty one year old midfielder Danny Guthrie, who was on loan at Bolton Wanderers last season, has signed a four year old contract with the Magpies.

The former Liverpool youngster joins twenty five year old midfielder Jonas Gutierrez who was signed last week from Spanish side Real Mallorca.

Gudjohnson To Return

Icelandic and FC Barcelona forward Eidur Gudjohnsen appears set to leave FC Barcelona this summer.

He is currently linked to the following Premier League sides, Aston Villa, Manchester City, West Ham and Portsmouth. However with the signing of Peter Crouch it is unlikely that Portsmouth could still be interested.

His agent and father Arnor Gudjohnsen said that he was keen to return to the English Premier League this season.

Rumour has it that Aston Villa are showing most interest in the twenty nine year old player but according to his father he may overlook Aston Villa for personal reasons and could opt for a club either in London or Manchester.

Chief Freed, Wife Hostage

The missing president of Bulgaria's Litex Lovech football club, Angel Bonchev, was freed on Friday but his his wife was taken hostage by his kidnappers while paying part of his ransom, the interior ministry said.

Bonchev, 47, who disappeared on May 22 while parking his car, was found "in a helpless condition and with no identity documents" in a Sofia neighbourhood and hospitalised "with grave mental disorder," the ministry said in a statement.

Interior Minister Mihail Mikov also told the national television late Friday that Bonchev's wife was taken hostage while trying to free him.

"His wife was captured while delivering money to his kidnappers," Mikov said.

Police have so far refused to confirm reports that Bonchev was kidnapped.

Bonchev, who is also a former wrestling international and motorcycling federation chief, did not have any obvious signs of torture when he was taken to hospital late Friday, doctors said.

But they feared he might have suffered a brain haemorrage.Bonchev's team Litex Lovech won the Bulgarian Cup in May and finished fourth in the league this season.

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